

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

F. O. I. P. A.

REQUEST

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 1-27-83

FEDERAL BUREAU

FOI/PA

DO NOT DESTROY SERIAL 548, 549, 550

PRIOR TO 11/95

FILE # 190-17858

Screened By: James
Mathis Date:
12-26-2012 DOCID:
59162492

INVESTIGATION

FOI/PA
Bureau File Number 44-38861

REQUEST 190-JN-26834

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 2/2006

See also Nos.

157-9586-SF1 Newspaper Clipping

157-9586-SF2 Orig. 302's

Separate 1A Vol.

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-9586

Volume Number

12

Serials 537

564

Puddister 4-5-68

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio

U R G E N T

☐ Teletype

TO : ALL FIELD DIVISIONS
 FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI - 6-6-68 -

MURKIN.

FOR INFORMATION ALL OFFICES AND NOT TO BE DISCLOSED TO ANYONE
OUTSIDE OF OFFICE IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THROUGH INVESTIGATION THAT
 SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY RESIDED IN CANADA FROM APRIL 8, 1968 UNTIL
 MAY 6, 1968 UNDER NAMES PAUL BRIDGMAN AND RAMON GEORGE SNEYD.
 SUBJECT DEPARTED CANADA FOR LONDON, ENGLAND, ON MAY 6 LAST AS
 SNEYD AND IS BELIEVED USING CANADIAN PASSPORT IN THAT NAME.
 SUBJECT BELIEVED TO BE WEARING GLASSES.

IN VIEW OF ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS REVIEW OF DRIVER'S LICENSE
 BUREAU RECORDS AS REQUESTED IN BUREAU RADIOGRAM MAY 21 LAST MAY BE
 DISCONTINUED.

OFFICES COVERING POINTS OF ENTRANCE INTO U.S. SHOULD PLACE
 APPROPRIATE STOPS WITH BORDER AND CUSTOM AUTHORITIES UNDER NAME OF
 RAMON GEORGE SNEYD. NO INDICATION WHATSOEVER SHOULD BE GIVEN THAT
THERE IS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN SNEYD AND KING ASSASSINATION. YOU
 MAY ADVISE AUTHORITIES THAT INDIVIDUAL USING NAME SNEYD IS BEING
 SOUGHT BY FBI FOR UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT FOR CHARGE OF
 ROBBERY.

(CONTINUED) END PAGE -1-

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

157-9586-564

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 6 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

(all Supervisors advised 6/6/68) (Sounds Good !!)

page -2-

FOR INFORMATION OF BORDER OFFICES THERE IS ACTUAL PERSON RESIDING IN TOTONTO, CANADA, WHO IS EMPLOYED BY TORONTO POLICE DEPARTMENT NAMED RAMON GEORGE SNEYD. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH USED BY SUBJECT IN OBTAINING PASSPORT. THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION IN EVENT BORDER STOPS DISCLOSE THAT INDIVIDUAL NAMED SNEYD IS ENTERING YOUR TERRITORY. COPIESMAILED WFO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

TOR: 1:35 PM -cfg-

6/4/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re JNairtel to HO, 4/23/68.

Re: SYLVIA SNOWDEN

On 5/29/68, contact was made with SYLVIA SNOWDEN, 13363 4th Street, Houston, telephone number 453-2874. In interview, Miss SNOWDEN advised that approximately eight weeks ago, she left Houston, Texas with J. R. FREEMAN, a friend, and her sister, GLENDA BAILEY, destination, La Rose, Louisiana. Miss SNOWDEN further stated that after staying in LaRose a couple of days, they drove to Memphis, where she obtained work at the White Stork Lounge. She stated she worked there three days and left because she was mad at a boy friend and departed to Jackson, Mississippi. She said after staying in Jackson, Mississippi, they drove to Meridian, Mississippi for a short period of time and then went to LaRose, Louisiana, again for one month, and then came back home. She stated that she felt the whole trip took about six weeks.

Miss SNOWDEN advised that J.R. FREEMAN stayed in Memphis, and she has not heard from him since. She further stated that JIMMY STUTTS did not make the trip and is living with her at this address. She said he works as a welder in Houston at the Pipefitters Local. Miss SNOWDEN further advised she has no association or hostilities toward MARTIN LUTHER KING and she never heard of ERIC STARVO GALT, aka James Earl Ray before seeing the name in the newspaper. She said JIMMY STUTTS has never been in any police trouble, and he has no association to her knowledge with the KING assassination.

2 - Memphis
1 - Jackson (157-9586) (Info)
1 - New Orleans (157-10673) (Info)
1 - Houston
JSW/sjm (5)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

P. [signature]

157-9586-563

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

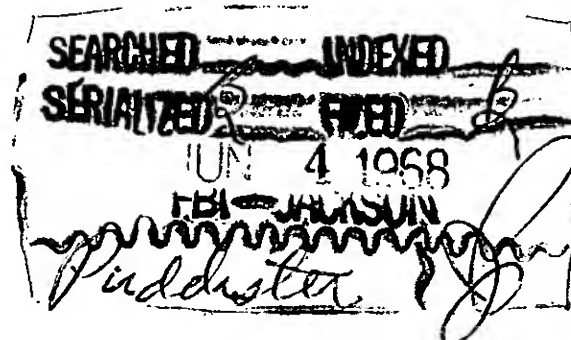
DATE: 6/4/68

FROM : SA THOMAS E. BURG (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 5/31/68, Detective Sergeant WALTER CADE, Laurel Police Department, Laurel, Miss., stated that at present he knows of no armed robberies or burglaries in the jurisdiction of the Laurel Police Department involving large sums of money in which the subject has not been identified or apprehended. He stated that during the period of April, 1967, to April, 1968, the largest amount taken in any one robbery or burglary was approximately \$2,000. CADE advised that he would keep under consideration the fact that JAMES EARL RAY has been spending a considerable sum of money and should any crime come to light which involves such a sum, he would consider RAY a suspect in this matter and act accordingly.

2 - Jackson (157-9586)
TEB/bls
(2)



6/3/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: ME
RE: DONALD JAMES NISSEN

Re Las Vegas airtel to Bureau, 5/29/68.

Mr. ROBERT SPHARS, All State Safety Control Inc., 7503 Cantrell Road, Little Rock, Ark., advised on 6/3/68 that the name DONALD JAMES NISSEN is not familiar to him and, after a check of his records, advised that NISSEN is not employed by him. He had no suggestion as to the possible whereabouts of NISSEN.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Jackson (Info)
1 - Jacksonville (44-762) (Info)
1 - Las Vegas (157-133) (Info)
2 - Little Rock
LJM/jaw
(10)

157-9586-561

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 5 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Pudister

F B I

Date: 6/4/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Jackson airtel to Memphis 5/2/68, and Memphis phone call to Jackson 6/4/68.

Cost data for the Jackson Division from 5/1/68 to 5/31/68, is as follows:

- | | | | |
|----|----|---|-------------------|
| 1. | A. | Special Agents | |
| | | Regular Man Hours | 327 854 (hours) |
| | | Overtime | 187 301 (hours) |
| | B. | Clerical Employees | |
| | | Regular Man Hours | 52 134 (hours) |
| | | Overtime | None |
| 2. | | Total Mileage (Estimated) | 287 6,632 (miles) |
| 3. | | Unusual or out-of-the-ordinary Expenses | None |
| 4. | | Peak Number of Special Agents Working on Case at Anytime During the Month | 7 40 |

157-9586-560

2 - Memphis
 ① - Jackson
 TF:lsk

(3)

Searched _____

Serialized _____

Indexed _____

Puddister

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

5/31/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re Jackson airtel to Houston 5/28/68.

On 5/28/68, Miss COYDIA OLIPHANT, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Thibodaux, 100 Green Street, advised that she had no record identifiable with GLENDA WILKINSON or GELENDIA WILKINSON.

A check of the Lafourche telephone directory failed to reflect any listing for GLENDA WILKINSON.

Captain BENNY MUSSO, Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office, Thibodaux, La., advised that he had no record identifiable with GLENDA WILKINSON. He stated that this individual was unknown to him and that there were numerous bars that employed barmaids in LaRose, La.

LEADS:

HOUSTON

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Will contact SYLVIA SNOWDEN, telephone 453-2874, and attempt to obtain address for her sister, GLENDA WILKINSON so that she may be interviewed pursuant to referenced communication.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

2-Houston
1-Jackson (157-9586) (Info)
2-New Orleans
RAB:mah
(5)

157-9586-559

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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1968	
FBI - JACKSON	
Piddister	

5/31/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO : SAC, MOBILE
FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD, Barnes Lane, Buras, La., advised SA. L. M. SHEARER, JR., on May 28, 1968, that he has been working in offshore drilling for Penrod Drilling Co., and to the best of his recollection he heard of the killing of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING while on a rig in the Gulf of Mexico.

He advised that since the date of the killing, he has had occasion to talk with several individuals whom he considers members of one Klan or another, and there is no indication from these conversations that the killing was a Klan action.

MANSFIELD was shown IO 4182 of JAMES EARL RAY, and he said he had observed an individual who somewhat resembled RAY in a tavern at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in the period shortly after 1/17/68. This individual who resembles the photograph of RAY appeared to be friend of a dark-haired barmaid, name possibly NELL, who worked in tavern behind Johnny's Place at Broad Street, and Greensboro Avenue. The dark-haired barmaid has a sister, a redhead, who works at Pat's Bar, 9th Street and 22nd.

MANSFIELD said he could not say that this individual is identical with RAY; however, the resemblance is enough that the individual could be RAY.

2 - Mobile
2 - Dallas
2 - Birmingham
① - Jackson (157-9586) (INFO)
2 - New Orleans
LMS:mak
(9)

157-9586-558

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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P. J. [signature]

NO 157-10673

MANSFIELD requested that his identity not be revealed as the source of the information if it is to be checked out.

By way of background information concerning MANSFIELD, he advised that he is known to several FBI offices, that he was formerly Grand Dragon of United Klans of America at Houston, Texas, and quit in 1961. He said he is well acquainted with BOBBY SHELTON of the UKA, and that his brother BILLY WAYNE MANSFIELD, was secretary of the UKA subsequent to the death of ALVIN SYKES in South Carolina.

MANSFIELD said he is also acquainted with L. E. MATTHEWS, reportedly a Klan member at Jackson, Mississippi, but actual knowledge of his membership is unknown to MANSFIELD.

LEADS:

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS: Contact Penrod Drilling Co., 3333 First National Bank Building, and ascertain dates MANSFIELD was employed with company in offshore operation out of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

MOBILE

AT TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA: Will attempt to identify individual MANSFIELD said resembled subject RAY and who appeared to be friend of barmaid at bar behind Johnny's Place. Protect identity of MANSFIELD as the source of information.

Date

3/24/68

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Subject

James C. Hardin

Aliases

J. C. HARDIN

Address

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact Spelling | <input type="checkbox"/> Main Criminal Case Files Only | <input type="checkbox"/> Restrict to Locality of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All References | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal References Only | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Main Subversive Case Files Only | <input type="checkbox"/> Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subversive References Only | <input type="checkbox"/> Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References) | |

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks
157-20A-2154 p84	James Hardin		
157-20-2034 p584	(see attached)		NT
174-135-115 p72	James L. Hardin - 10 yrs. 3110 Old Canton Rd. Jackson		
	Neighborhood investigation on 11/22-24/67		
	near residence of Rabbi Philip E. Gurshtman,		
	3410 Old Canton Rd, Jackson in		
	after his residence was bombed by		
	Unknown Subjects on 11/21/67.		
	Res - apt. at 1523 N. West St.		
	Eng - Josephi Beauty		
	366 - 8464		

Requested by

Squad

Extension

File No.

157-9586-557

Searched by

Consolidated by

Reviewed by

1 - Identical
NI - Not identical

? - Not identifiable
U - Unavailable reference

File Review Symbols

FILED
JUN 5 1968
FBI - JACKSON

SAMT
REF. 157-20A-2154 J. 80
157-20-2036 JS 84

Ref. of SA John T. Reynolds
at New Orleans dated
10/26/62 captioned
"Desegregation of
University of Mississippi";
RM; OOT; AFO;
CONSPIRACY".

Recorded over

A / 29 - 2386

& it was registered

to a 1957 Chevrolet

A 5753 H 249

in Oct. 1961

to James

HARDIN,

Fulton, Minn.

in Ottawamba Co.

Index Y.O. & Memphis
replied no further info

On Hardin so far
as in known to
John Price.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (157-9586)

FROM : ASAC ELMER F. LINBERG

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/4/68

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN, Memphis Division, telephonically advised at 11:45 AM today that HOSEA WILLIAMS, Washington, D. C., made accusations against the Bureau that the FBI is not looking for Subject RAY but is standing around Washington watching the Poor Peoples' March. In order to blast this accusation, the Bureau desires to have cost figures for May immediately. JENSEN requested that Jackson figures be telephoned to Agent GYLFE, Memphis, within the next few hours in order that Memphis will be able to furnish a summary to the Bureau.

Above information made available to Relief Supervisor FITZ PATRICK.

SAC JENSEN advised that the RCMP has developed some good information by review of passport applications at Toronto, Canada. The review came up with a person by the name of RAMON GEORGE SNEYD who recently applied for a passport and who took a flight to London, England, 5/6/68, returned from London to Toronto 5/21/68. There is a real RAMON GEORGE SNEYD in the Toronto Telephone Directory; however, he is a Toronto policeman and upon interview steadfastly denies that he knows RAY and claims that he does not have the finances to make a trip to London. Apparently RAY has assumed the identity of SNEYD. The RCMP has further developed that the person using SNEYD's name arrived in Toronto approximately 4/11/68 and has been residing at a low-level boarding house in Toronto. This development has not become public and should be kept confidential.

EFL:bkb
(2)



5/30/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
SAC, NEW ORLEANS /157-10673/

FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE /44-947/

MURKIN

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE MAY TWENTYNINE LAST TO
DIRECTOR, JACKSON AND LOUISVILLE.

RE JAMES C. HARDIN.

PHOTO RECORD FILM REFLECTS DR. J. C. HARDIN,
ONE TWO NINE ARDMORE, SHREVEPORT, LA.

LOUISVILLE INDICES NEGATIVE RE ANYONE IDENTIFIABLE
WITH JAMES C. HARDIN, J. C. HARDIN, OR JAMES HARDIN.

JACKSON, ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS
ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

LS 44-947

1 cc Jackson (AM)
1 cc Atlanta (AM)
1 cc Los Angeles (AM)
1 cc Memphis (AM)
REP:mjr
(5)

157-9586-555

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 3 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	
Puddister	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

TOM MELSON DAVIS was photographed at the Mississippi Highway Patrol Substation, New Albany, Mississippi, with his permission.

DAVIS also gave his permission to photograph his 1967 white Ford Mustang, parked at the Substation. Photographs were taken of this vehicle.

No threats or promises were made to DAVIS to secure his permission for these photographs.

4/8/68 New Albany, Mississippi

On 4/8/68 at New Albany, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-554
by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN
SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER/JDM/bkh Date dictated 4/9/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

F B I

Date: May 31, 1968

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

To: SAC, Jackson (157-9586)
New Orleans (157-10673)

✓ From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Los Angeles teletype to Bureau dated May 30, 1968.

New Orleans, if not already done, will obtain background information regarding Dr. J. C. Hardin as this individual could possibly be identical with Hardin referred to by Allan O. Thompson, Manager of St. Francis Hotel.

Jackson will check all references to name of Hardin and account for current whereabouts of James Hardin who was at University of Mississippi. Jackson should continue to check out names or variations of Hardin contained in their files.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 1 - Los Angeles (info)
- 1 - Memphis (info)

157-9586-553

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 3 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Puddisto

(we send out cannot re
index review & refer to it
127)

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

May 31, 1968

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Jackson (157-9586)
New Orleans (157-10673)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - Los Angeles (info)
1 - Memphis (info)

157-9586-553

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F B I

FOIA(b) (6)
FOIA(b) (7) - (C)

Date: 5/29/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 OO: Memphis

Re Jacksonville airtel to the Bureau dated 5/22/68, regarding alleged offer of \$100,000.00 by White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (WKKKK), Jackson, Mississippi, to anyone who kills MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Enclosed for Little Rock is one copy each of Dallas airtel to the Bureau, 6/6/67; Kansas City airtel to the Bureau, 7/21/67; Dallas airtel to the Bureau, 5/1/68, and Jacksonville airtel to the Bureau, 5/22/68, which are background information.

On 5/27/68, EDWARD J. PRESTON, 1565 Sharon Way, Reno, Nevada, advised SA NORMAN M. STONE he is a partner in Safety Auto Control, Inc., which recently moved to 855 Marrietta Way, Sparks, Nevada. He said [redacted] is unknown to him and has never been employed by that company which has only been in existence about one year.

PRESTON states his company manufactures an auto safety product which is sold nationally. He said his company does not handle any of the sales of this product, noting all sales are handled exclusively by Allstate Safety Control, Inc., Room 201, Tanglewood Office Building, 7509 Cantrell Road, Little Rock, Arkansas. He said [redacted] was selling this auto safety part, he would be employed by Allstate Safety Control, Inc. He suggested ROBERT SPEARS, manager, of that company be contacted.

3 - Bureau (44-38861)
 ① - Jackson
 1 - Jacksonville (44-769)
 2 - Little Rock (enc. 4)
 2 - Memphis (44-1986)
 2 - Las Vegas
 NMS:kah
 (11)

157-7546-552

SEARCHED <u>ad</u>	INDEXED <u>ad</u>
SERIALIZED <u>B</u>	FILED <u>ad</u>
MAY 31 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	
<i>Puddister</i>	<i>D</i>

LV 157-133

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

LEAD:

LITTLE ROCK

AT LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Contact ROBERT SPEARS, Manager, Allstate Safety Control, Inc., Tanglewood Office Building, Room 201, 7509 Cantrell Road, in an effort to locate

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 5/24/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 3/25/68 -- 5/22/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, Aka -- FUGITIVE; IO 4182 WF 442-A TOP TEN FUGITIVE; DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -- VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III	TYPED BY sjs
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY	

REFERENCES:

Bureau airtel to All Offices, dated 5/7/68.

- P -

LEADS:SPRINGFIELD DIVISIONAt Springfield, Illinois.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						None	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE: SI 44-561 See Cover Page B <i>[Signature]</i> <i>[Signature]</i>						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW 157-9586-651 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAY 30 1968 FBI - JACKSON <i>[Signature]</i> </div>		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency								
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.								
How Fwd.								
By								

SI 44-561

- 3 - Bureau (44-38861)
- 3 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386)(Info)
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740)(Info)
- 1 - Chicago (44-1114)(Info)
- 1 - Houston (44-1509)(Info)
- ~~1~~ - Jackson (Info)
- 1 - Kansas City (44-760)(Info)
- 1 - Los Angeles (44-1574)(Info)
- 1 - New Orleans (157-10673)(Info)
- 1 - St. Louis (44-775)(Info)
- 2 - Springfield (44-561)

- B -
Cover Page

SI 44-561

Will continue efforts to locate subject RAY.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

Information copies sent Atlanta, Birmingham, Chicago, Houston, Jackson, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and St. Louis Divisions in view of pending investigation in those Divisions.

No leads are being set forth in this report as they have been and are being set out by more expeditious communications.

For the sake of brevity, the body of this report does not contain the voluminous negative information obtained by the Springfield Division during the period of this report. This information is a matter of record in the Springfield Division and reflects negative information re:

- (1) ERIC STARVO GALT, agency checks; barge lines; dance studios
- (2) Laundry checks
- (3) Agency checks re HARVEY LOWMYER or LOWMEYER
- (4) Canvass of unsolved bank robberies in the Springfield Division
- (5) Canvass of law enforcement agencies re unidentified latent fingerprints
- (6) Automobiles stolen from the State of Georgia
- (7) Possible suspects and lookalikes which originated and were resolved wholly within the Springfield Division
- (8) Nonproductive interviews as a result of various telephone and mail coverage

- C -

Cover Page

SI 44-561

- (9) Contacts with informants and sources, Springfield Division
- (10) Surveillances of subject's family and associates, Springfield Division

During the course of this investigation, appropriate dissemination has been made by the Springfield Division to all law enforcement agencies and mass media contacts within the Division.

Interviews with FOIA(b)7 - (D)

On March 25, 1968, a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, made at Missouri Department of Corrections on March 17, 1960 was exhibited by SA ELYON H. DAVIS to FOIA(b)7 - (D) Informant advised that the photograph was familiar to him and was someone that he thought he had known in St. Louis, Missouri, in either 1959 or 1960. Informant stated that he had never seen RAY to his knowledge in Quincy, Illinois. Informant advised that he is very close to WALTER TERRY RIFE and sees RIFE on a daily basis. He advised that RIFE had been living at the home of his brother, LONNIE RIFE at Baylis, Illinois, however, in February, 1967, WALTER TERRY RIFE had started running the restaurant in the Virginia Hotel, in Quincy, Illinois. Informant advised that he would contact WALTER RIFE and determine if RIFE knew anything concerning RAY's whereabouts. Informant advised that he did not feel that WALTER RIFE would cooperate with the Federal authorities inasmuch as it was RIFE's nature to not cooperate with police. Informant advised that WALTER RIFE had been working on a daily basis at the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, and informant knew that in the recent past, RAY has not been in contact with WALTER RIFE.

On April 7, 1968, FOIA(b)7 - (D) was recontacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS concerning JAMES EARL RAY. Informant advised that he had contacted WALTER TERRY RIFE on several occasions since last contacted and that WALTER RIFE had no information as to the present whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY. He advised

- D -
Cover Page

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that WALTER TERRY RIFE had told him he had not seen RAY since RIFE left Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary in 1957.

On April 19, 1968, [FOIA(b)7 - (D)] was contacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA THOMAS M. SCHOENHOFER and was exhibited photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, made at Missouri Department of Corrections on March 17, 1960, as well as a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. Informant advised that he has never to his knowledge seen this individual in the Quincy, Illinois area. He advised that he had been contacting WALTER TERRY RIFE almost on a daily basis and that this individual is definitely not with JAMES EARL RAY at the present time. The informant advised that he is certain that WALTER TERRY RIFE was working at his restaurant at the Virginia Hotel during the period from March 29, 1968 through April 4, 1968. Informant advised that he cannot remember exactly where he had ever seen RAY, however, he feels it was in bars located on Olive Street in St. Louis, Missouri, and to the best of his knowledge, it would have been sometime around 1959 or 1960. The informant advised that he is certain that RAY has not been in the Quincy area in the recent past or else the informant would know of it.

Informant advised that he personally is acquainted with all of the Country Music Night Clubs in the Quincy, Illinois general area and visits these places quite frequently and he is certain that RAY has not recently been to any of these night clubs.

Informant was instructed to work full time concerning the development of any information concerning the whereabouts, activities or background concerning RAY.

Interviews with [FOIA(b)7 - (D)]

On May 1, 1968, [FOIA(b)7 - (D)] was exhibited the photograph of an unknown male allegedly resembling the subject in this matter taken at a Minutemen Meeting. Informant was unable to identify this individual as being anyone he has come in contact with within the Minutemen Organization.

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Re Prior Threats to MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On May 3, 1968, [REDACTED]

During the course of this investigation, WILLIAM HICKLE, Service Representative, Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Quincy, Illinois, (whose identity should be protected,) has furnished information affording appropriate coverage of all of subject RAY's family and associates in the Springfield Division. All leads derived from this source have been checked and telephone subscribers eliminated as having no connection with this matter.

Records of the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, should they be needed in the future, can be obtained through the issuance of a Subpoena Duces Tecum directed to Mr. HICKLE.

It should be noted that the investigative period of this report precedes the date of KING's assassination; this fact due to Springfield Division's prior investigative interest in JAMES EARL RAY, SI file 88-5361, Bufile 88-41730, entitled "JAMES EARL RAY, Aka - Fugitive, UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST."

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III Office: Springfield
Date: May 24, 1968

Field Office File #: SI 44-561 Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY
IO 4182
WF 442-A
TOP TEN FUGITIVE
DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
Character: VICTIM

Synopsis: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Springfield files reflect HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER located and interviewed and determined not identical with subject in this case. Birth and other pertinent records located for subject JAMES EARL RAY. Numerous files reviewed re family of JAMES EARL RAY and those within Springfield Division located and interviewed. Prison records checked re RAY. Contact being maintained with all relatives at this time. Information developed and furnished re actual and alleged past associates of RAY. Interviews with possible fellow inmates of RAYs at Illinois State Penitentiary, Pontiac, Illinois, negative. Information developed and set forth re BENNY K. PINKSTON and JOHN C. MEDIZER, who have made prior threats against MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Investigation conducted to eliminate numerous possible suspects and lookalikes to JAMES EARL RAY. Wife of ROBERT HOOD STRADER located and interviewed. Investigation continuing to locate CECIL RAY. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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I. HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER

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On April 8, 1968, a check of Springfield Division indices reflected a reference to HARVEY LOHMEYER, white male, age 23 in 1955; 5' 8" tall; FBI #730 979A; home address, Palmyra, Illinois.

On April 13, 1968, a recheck of the records of the Illinois State Prison Farm, Vandalia, Illinois, regarding the sentence served by HARVEY LOHMEYER, inmate number 33316, FBI # 730 979A, was verified as June 5, 1951 to October 20, 1951. LOHMEYER was sentenced from Adams County, Quincy, Illinois, on a charge of riot.

His previous identification and arrest record contains only an arrest on August 10, 1959, by Adams County Sheriff's Office on the charge of robbery and the disposition for the charge is shown as "pending". His inmate number 33316 and FBI number 730 979A do not show other sentences at this institution for this person under the name LOHMEYER or in the alias file.

Also, on April 13, 1968, the records of the penitentiary show HARVEY LOHMEYER, Illinois State Penitentiary Menard Number 24525, received at Menard, May 19, 1955, to serve 2 to 5 years on a charge of burglary. He was paroled July, 1958. A review of the file for associates and correspondents reflects no information that LOHMEYER associated for corresponded with ERIC GALT.

On April 13, 1968, THOMAS R. LOHMEYER, DONALD L. LOHMEYER, WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR, all brothers of HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, FBI #730 979 A were interviewed and all presently reside in Quincy, Illinois area. DONALD L. LOHMEYER is employed by Durst Dairy at Quincy, Illinois, and was working during period March 29, 1968 and April 4, 1968 and his attendance at work was verified. THOMAS R. LOHMEYER and WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR. are both employed by Monogram Industries, Quincy, Illinois, and both were in Quincy, Illinois, from March 29, to April 4, 1968.

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On April 12, 1968, investigation was conducted in the Quincy, Illinois area in an effort to locate HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, FBI #730 979A.

Investigation showed that HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER has not been in the Quincy area for many years and that his last known place of residence was somewhere in the State of California.

On April 13, 1968, the records of the Quincy, Illinois Police Department, were reviewed and showed the following records for brothers of HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER:

WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR.

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	2/16/17
Place of Birth	Quincy, Illinois
Height	5' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	180 lbs.
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Build	Medium
Tattoo	Two swords on left forearm
Occupation	Laborer, Monogram Industries 825 South Front Street Quincy, Illinois

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The file showed the following arrests for WALTER LOHMEYER, JR.:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
6-16-40	Selling liquor	\$25 fine
10-2-43	Speeding	\$10 fine
3-15-51	Peace disturbance	\$25 fine
7-19-52	Careless driving	\$15 fine
7-16-54	Reckless driving	Sentenced 90 days Vandalia State Prison Farm
3-16-55	Peace disturbance	\$25 fine
8-23-59	Careless driving	\$15 fine

The Quincy Police Department files showed the following physical description of DONALD LOHMEYER:

RACE:	White
SEX:	Male
DATE OF BIRTH:	8-20-30
HEIGHT:	5'7"
WEIGHT:	153 lbs.
HAIR:	Brown
EYES:	Brown

The file showed the following arrests for DONALD LOHMEYER:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
4-26-47	Investigation	Released
1-29-51	Careless driving	\$25 fine
4-29-52	Speeding	\$20 fine
10-27-56	Speeding	\$5

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The files showed the physical description of THOMAS R. LOHMEYER as follows:

RACE:	White
SEX:	Male
AGE:	not shown
HEIGHT:	5'7 1/2"
WEIGHT:	150 lbs.
HAIR:	Brown
EYES:	Brown
COMPLEXION:	Ruddy
HOME ADDRESS:	1501 North 4th St. Quincy, Ill.

The files showed the following arrest record for THOMAS R. LOHMEYER:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
6-28-45	B & E	Released
3-15-51	Peace disturbance	\$25 fine
5-25-52	Peace disturbance	\$10 fine
3-15-55	Peace disturbance	\$15 fine

On 4-13-68 ELIZABETH ROTH, Credit Bureau of Quincy, Inc., Quincy, Ill., furnished the following information concerning the LOHMEYERS in the files of her office:

WALTER RAY LOHMEYER, JR., in 1/68 was residing at 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Illinois. He presently owns his home at that address and is very slow in payment on credit bills. He has been employed by Monogram Industries, Quincy, Ill., for approximately 20 years. No information of any connections of WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., outside Quincy, Illinois.

The file showed that THOMAS R. LOHMEYER's last known address was 1527 South Fifth Street, Quincy, as of 6/65. He later made inquiries concerning purchasing a home in Payson, Illinois. As of 4/66 a credit check showed he had been employed by Monogram Industries in Quincy for 11 years. Nothing was contained in the file that would indicate that LOHMEYER had ever lived anywhere except the Quincy area.

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The credit bureau files showed that DONALD L. LOHMEYER was last known to reside at 1501 North Fourth Street, Quincy, Ill., as of 8/66. On 11/66 the records show he was employed as a laborer at Durst Dairy, Quincy, and his wife at Illinois Bell Telephone Co., Quincy, Ill. The file did not show any residence for DONALD LOHMEYER outside the Quincy, Ill., area.

On 4-13-68, CHARLES GABRIEL, Office Manager, Durst Dairy, Quincy, Ill., advised that DONALD L. LOHMEYER is employed by that company as a laborer and that he was working on 3-29-68 and 3-30-68 and 4/1-4/68. He advised that LOHMEYER did not work on 3-31-68 as that was his day off. He also advised that LOHMEYER has been a good employee for many years and was a very quiet individual and had not been involved in any violence during the period of time he was employed by Durst Dairy.

On 4-13-68, DONALD L. LOHMEYER was interviewed at his place of employment, Durst Dairy, Quincy, Ill. He advised he has not been out of the State of Illinois, for a number of months and that he was working on 3-29 and 3-30-68 as well as 4/1-4/68. He advised he has not seen his brother, HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER for many years and only knew that HARVEY was living somewhere in California. He stated during the period from 3-29-68 until 4-4-68 he had seen his brothers, WALTER R. LOHMEYER and THOMAS R. LOHMEYER almost on a daily basis and knew for certain that neither one had been outside the Quincy, Ill., area. He advised that the name ERIC STARVO GALT was completely unfamiliar to him and he has never known anyone by that name to be associated with any member of the LOHMEYER family. He also advised he has never known any member of his family other than HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, to use the name HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER.

On 4-13-68 Mrs. WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Ill., was interviewed and furnished the following information:

Her husband has not been out of the State of Illinois since 3/29/68 and he has been employed regularly at Monogram Industries with the exception of the dates 3-29 and 30-68 and 4-1 and 4-2-68 during which dates the union was on strike at Monogram. She advised that on these dates her husband was on the picket line and did not leave Quincy. She stated also that THOMAS R. LOHMEYER is employed by Monogram Industries and was at work on 4-3 and 4-4-68 and was on the picket lines at Monogram Industries on 3/29-30/68 and 4/1-2/68.

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On 4-13-68 WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., 1877 Hampshire St., was interviewed and advised he has not been out of the Quincy, Ill., area since 8-15-67. He advised he has been to work every day during work days with the exception of 3/29-30/68 and 4/1-2/68 on which dates he was on the picket line at Monogram Industries his place of employment in Quincy, Ill. He stated that on each date from 3-29-68 until 4-4-68, he saw his brother, THOMAS R. LOHMEYER, who is also employed by Monogram Industries and was at work on each date with the exception of the dates the union was on strike.

On 4-13-68 BILL LONG, Personnel Manager, Monogram Industries, 825 South Front St., Quincy, verified that WALTER R. LOHMEYER, JR., and THOMAS LOHMEYER were employed on every date during the last two months, with the exception the days the union was on strike.

He advised on 3/29-30/68 and 4/1-2/68 both the LOHMEYERS had been observed on the picket lines at Monogram Industries.

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On April 20, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA JAMES T. GOSS at Quincy, Illinois:

Five photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306443A were exhibited to WALTER R. LOHMEYER, 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Illinois. LOHMEYER advised that he has never to his knowledge seen this individual before and he did not remember ever hearing any member of the LOHMEYER family mention JAMES EARL RAY. He advised that he specifically had never heard his brother HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER mention JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 20, 1968, photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A were exhibited to Mrs. RITA F. LOHMEYER, 1877 Hampshire Street, Quincy. She advised that she had never seen this individual to her knowledge in her life and had never heard any member of the LOHMEYER family mention him.

On April 20, 1968, photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443A were exhibited to THOMAS LOHMEYER, Payson, Illinois. He advised that the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, were not familiar to him and that he could not state that he had ever seen this individual in his life. He also advised that he had never heard his brother, HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER, mention this individual.

On April 20, 1968, the photographs of RAY were also exhibited to Mrs. THOMAS LOHMEYER, Payson, Illinois, who advised that she did not know RAY and had never heard any member of the LOHMEYER family mention RAY.

On April 20, 1968, DONALD LOHMEYER, 1507 North Fourth Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised while being interviewed by SA DAVIS and viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, that he did not recognize the photograph of RAY as anyone that he had ever known. He stated that these photographs were vaguely familiar to him and that if he had ever seen RAY, it was only to see RAY and not that of an acquaintance. He advised that he had never heard his brother HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER ever mention JAMES EARL RAY.

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The photographs of RAY were also exhibited by SA DAVIS to Mrs. LUCY LOHMEYER, 1507 North Fourth Street, Quincy, Illinois and she advised that JAMES EARL RAY is not known to her and that the photographs of RAY are not familiar to her.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 21, 1968, EARL JACK HILAND, Operator, Sky Ride Inn Tavern, 236 Front Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER was at one time a brother-in-law of HILAND and that HILAND was in jail at the Adams County Jail, Quincy, Illinois, with LOHMEYER and ROBERT KELLY in 1951 after they were involved in a brawl at the Barn Night Club, Quincy, Illinois. HILAND viewed a number of photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that the photographs are vaguely familiar to him as someone he has seen in the past. He stated that he definitely is not an associate of RAY and has never been a close associate of RAY and stated he could not furnish any information concerning RAY, RAY's associates, activities, or whereabouts.

On April 21, 1968, ROBERT KELLY, 1210 Hampshire Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised he was arrested at the Barn Night Club in Quincy, Illinois, with JACK HILAND, HARVEY LOHMEYER and JOHN O'DEAR.

KELLY advised that he is not acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY and did not know anything concerning RAY's family, whereabouts, or activities.

On April 21, 1968, JOHN O'DEAR, Route 6, Quincy, Illinois, advised he had been arrested for causing a riot at the Barn Night Club in Quincy in the early 1950's and that he was arrested with HARVEY LOHMEYER, JACK HILAND and BOB KELLY. He stated that JAMES EARL RAY is not an associate of his. He also advised that he is not acquainted with RAY's relatives and could furnish no information concerning RAY.

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II. JAMES EARL RAY

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The following investigation was conducted
by SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

On April 19, 1968, Sergeant HAROLD COX, Alton Illinois Police Department, made available Alton Police Department file 7514 on James Earl Ray:

This file disclosed RAY was arrested by the Alton Police Department as early as 1949 and as recently as 1959 for charges ranging from traffic violations through vagrancy, burglary and armed robbery. A photograph of RAY taken in 1955 was made available and will be submitted to the case file.

Conference with officers at the Alton Police Department, disclosed that the last known residence for RAY's parents JAMES and LUCIE RAY was 1439 Locust Street, Quincy, Illinois. Contact with relatives on RAY's mother's side of the family with family name, MAHER, disclosed that LUCILLE MAHER RAY divorced RAY's father and is currently residing in East St. Louis, Illinois area but her exact whereabouts are unknown. Likewise, her new married name is unknown to relatives in Alton.

Mrs. MARGARET KESHNER, Circuit Clerk, Alton, Illinois, made available a photo copy of a Certificate of Birth, #123 which disclosed JAMES EARL RAY was born March 10, 1928, to JAMES RAY and LUCIE MAHER.

All Alton Police Department Units have been furnished a photograph of RAY and have been alerted to be on the lookout for him.

RAY is not known to have been in the Alton, Illinois area since 1959 when he perpetrated an armed robbery at Wagoner's Foodliner, an independent grocery store located on the corner of 9th and Alby Streets in Alton, Illinois.

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Previous investigation concerning RAY was conducted in January, 1968, under the Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement classification and efforts at that time to locate WILLIAM MAHER at 1118 East 7th Street, disclosed that MAHER no longer resides in Alton, Illinois and all public source records failed to disclose any information concerning his current whereabouts.

The Kansas City Division indicated that RAY was employed by the International Shoe Company at Hartford, Illinois, prior to incarceration at the Missouri State Penitentiary. It is to be noted that the tannery operated by the International Shoe Company at Hartford is no longer in business having shut down operations approximately 2 years ago.

On April 20, 1968, a certificate of birth was located showing JAMES EARL RAY was born March 10, 1928, at Alton, Illinois to JAMES RAY and LUCIE MAHER.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE:

On April 19, 1968, a review of the files furnished by U.S. Probation and Parole Office, Springfield, Illinois, was made by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE: The following information was obtained for lead value:

Correspondence while JAMES EARL RAY was incarcerated in the Missouri State Penitentiary:

Aunt, Miss LUCY RYAN, 701 $\frac{1}{2}$ Washington Street, address also given as 801 North 12th Street, Quincy, Illinois;

One time co-defendant was WALTER TERRY RIFE, who is incarcerated in Leavenworth, Kansas. RIFE now lives in Quincy, Illinois.

Employment:

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Dryden Rubber Company from July, 1949 to September, 1949, Chicago, Illinois;

International Shoe Company, May, 1944, to December, 1945, Hartford, Illinois;

Neo Product Company, April, 1950 to July, 1950, Chicago, Illinois;

Arbey Corporation, July, 1950, to July, 1951, Chicago, Illinois;

Borg - Erickson Corporation, August, 1951, to May, 1952, Chicago, Illinois;

Relatives:

Uncle who resides in Quincy, Illinois, no name given

Other names and addresses

WILLIAM MAHER, 1118 East 7th Street, Alton, Illinois.

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JLM/jac

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOSEPH L. MC KINSTRAY.

On April 23, 1968, EDNA BAER, coordinator, Selective Service System, St. Clair County, advised she had no record of JAMES EARL RAY under that name or any known aliases. She stated that the serial number given 16163129 indicates to her that the first "1" means the man was an enlistee and the second digit "6" indicates he enlisted in the Sixth Corp or Army area. She stated that she recalled that in 1946 inductees from this area were sent to Chicago, Illinois for induction and there was no induction center at East St. Louis, Illinois.

Mrs. ADA S. DANIELS, Selective Service System, Madison County, Illinois, advised she could locate no record identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY under that name or known aliases or through the above military service number or the birthdate March 10, 1928.

At East St. Louis, Illinois

Sergeant TOMMY CARROLL, Army Recruiter, 650 Missouri Avenue, advised that his office does not maintain old records concerning enlistments. He suggested that if the military service number of an individual is known, his record could be located at the Department of Defense, Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri.

On 4/22/68, ROY WEHRMAN, Personnel Manager, Quincy Compressor, Inc., Quincy, Illinois, advised that the records of his office show that JAMES EARL RAY, Social Security #334-22-6876, was employed by Quincy Compressor on 8/6/51 and that he quit work on 9/4/51. He was employed as a drill press operator on the night shift and his application was filled out by the foreman PETER DUNKER.

The records show that JAMES EARL RAY's home address was 1439 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois. His education was listed as four years of grade school at Quincy, Illinois and four years of high school at Chicago, Illinois. Identities of the schools not shown.

The file showed previous employment with the Arvey Corporation or Avery Corporation, Chicago, Illinois, as a laborer for one year. Hourly wage \$1.40, dates of employment not shown.

The previous employment to that was apparently with Neo Produce Company, Chicago, Illinois, Period of employment was four months, position, labor.

The file showed the following description of JAMES EARL RAY:

Race	White
Height	5'11"
Weight	150 pounds
Date of application	8/6/51

On 4/23/68, PETER DUNKER, Superintendent, Drill Press Room, after viewing the application of JAMES EARL RAY and the photographs of RAY advised that he cannot

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remember or recall JAMES EARL RAY. He pointed out that RAY only worked in his department for three weeks and that many thousands of people had worked in the Drill Press Section of Quincy Compressor. He stated that the record showed that RAY FELKER would have been the immediate foreman of RAY.

On 4/23/68, RAY FELKER, supervisor, Quincy Compressor, Inc., advised that after viewing several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY that he does not remember JAMES EARL RAY and does not recall the name. He advised that there is no one presently employed in the drill press operation that was working on the night shift in 1951. He advised that he cannot furnish any further information concerning RAY.

On 4/23/68, ELSIE RUDER, clerk, Local Board #1, Quincy, Illinois, advised that the files of her office show that JAMES EARL RAY, 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois, registered with the local board #1 on 4/13/49. His home address was shown as 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois and his date of birth, 3/10/28 at Alton, Illinois. His closest relative was shown as LUCILLE RAY, his mother, at 214 Spring Street. His occupation was listed as student, American Television School, St. Louis, Missouri.

The file showed previous military service with the United States Army from 2/19/46 until 12/23/48 and this was with the First Division, 16th Infantry Regiment. The file showed RAY to be holder of Serial Number 16163129.

The file showed his description as:

Eyes	Blue
Hair	Black
Complexion	Ruddy
Height	5'11"
Weight	157 pounds

Mrs. RUDER advised that this was all of the information located at Local Board #1. The complete file would be located at the Illinois State Headquarters of the Selective Service System, Springfield, Illinois.

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On April 18, 1968, the following individuals were recontacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and advised that they had no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY:

VIOLA MAYFIELD,
2716 Cherry Street,
Quincy, Illinois;

FLOYD RIFE,
226 Lind Street,
Quincy, Illinois;

Sergeant ROLAND HANSON
Quincy, Illinois Police Department,
Quincy, Illinois.

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EHD:ras

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 23, 1968, JUDSON GREEN, Business Manager, Quincy Clinic, Quincy, Illinois, advised that the records of his office shows that JAMES RAY first visited the Quincy Clinic on August 15, 1938. The records showed he was in the third grade at that time and also the family consisted of two other living children and one that had died of burns. JAMES RAY was listed as the oldest member of the family and his home address at that time was in care of Mrs. JAMES RAY, 315 Cherry Street.

On this first visit, he was attended to by Dr. WHITAKER and at that time suffered from loss of consciousness, sudden onset, both legs withdrawn. He was unconscious for thirty minutes and jerked and twitched with no biting of tongue. He did not soil his clothes and later had no memory of this attack. He had a history of frequent outcries at night. The records showed Dr. WHITAKER had diagnosed this as possible epilepsy, spontaneous in origin and not traumatic. No other symptoms at that time. He was also a persistent bed wetter and seemed to have no control at night.

Later, he was treated on July 3, 1940, by Dr. GUY TURNEY for a small blister right thumb and forefinger caused by a firecracker explosion. On the second day, this wound was cleaned. No other information available concerning any medical treatment. The file contained the following addresses, dates of the addresses not shown; however, the first entry made was on March 4, 1936 and the last on October 29, 1940. The addresses were shown all in Quincy, Illinois, as follows:

412 North Fifth Street

Rural Route 3, 18th Street

212 Spring Street

1258 Hampshire Street.

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928 Lind Street

1616 North Second Street

121 South Ninth Street

1517 North Fourth Street

.701 $\frac{1}{2}$ North Fifth Street

128 $\frac{1}{2}$ North Fifth Street

1439 Cherry Street

214 Spring Street

315 Cherry Street

413 Vermont Street

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EHD/eab/sjs

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The following investigation was conducted at Quincy, Illinois, by SA ELYON H. DAVIS:

On March 25, 1968, ROSIE RIFE, 400 College Avenue, Quincy, advised that she is the mother of WALTER TERRY RIFE. A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, was exhibited to her, however, she advised that she did not know RAY. She advised that she has not seen this individual with her son, WALTER TERRY RIFE, and knew nothing concerning RAY's whereabouts.

On March 25, 1968, VIOLA MAYFIELD, 2716 Cherry Street, advised that she is the sister of WALTER TERRY RIFE and operates VI's Style Salon at that address. She advised that her brother, WALTER RIFE, had been living with another brother, LONNIE RIFE, at Baylis, Illinois. She advised that the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was unfamiliar to her and that she had, to her knowledge, never seen this individual in her life. She could furnish no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

On March 25, 1968, FLOYD RIFE, 226 Lind Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that he is the brother of WALTER TERRY RIFE. He viewed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he had never seen JAMES EARL RAY to his knowledge. He advised that WALTER RIFE has been operating for several weeks the restaurant located in the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, Illinois and he, FLOYD, is in that restaurant almost on a daily basis and he had not seen or heard anything concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

On March 25, 1968, Captain HAROLD HUNSAKER, Quincy, Illinois Police Department advised that his department has received no information in the recent past concerning JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A. He advised that the last record in his file concerning RAY was when RAY was arrested in Hannibal, Missouri, in 1955 with WALTER TERRY RIFE.

On March 25, 1968, DONALD G. OITKER, 321 South 7th Street, Quincy, advised that he has lived at that address for a number of years and that the name KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK is unfamiliar to him. He advised that the name JAMES EARL RAY is unfamiliar with him and after viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, advised that he does not know this individual.

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On April 11, 1968, Sergeant ROLAND HANSON, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, was contacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS at which time Sergeant HANSON advised that he had no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY and that the Quincy Police Department has received no information concerning the present whereabouts of RAY.

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III. FAMILY OF JAMES EARL RAY

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A. SUMMARY

FOIA(b) (6)
FOIA(b) (7) - (C)

On 4-20-68, GEORGE PARSONS, 2826 College Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

PARSONS advised that he is a supervisor for the Illinois Youth Commission and has had numerous contacts with the family of LUCILE RYAN. He stated that this family is also known by the name RAY. PARSONS advised that around 1955 and 1966 he had kept a member of this family, MELBA MARIE RYAN, in his home and that he had always been close to MELBA MARIE RYAN.

PARSONS advised that he does not have any exact dates concerning anything in the family but that he knows the family is supposed to have moved to Quincy, Illinois, sometime during the 1940s and that the entire family lived at 214 String Street, Quincy, Illinois, during the 1940s until approximately 1955. He stated that this area at that time was an area infested with houses of prostitution and a very rough neighborhood and a very poor neighborhood. PARSONS stated that the entire family had been very close to each other and that he felt that members of the family would certainly harbor JAMES EARL RAY. He stated this would be particularly true of JERRY RYAN and JACK or JOHN RYAN. He felt that these two would harbor JAMES EARL RAY if they thought it would be to JAMES EARL RAY's advantage.

He furnished the following names for members of the family:

Father	JAMES, JIM or JERRY RAY
Mother	LUCILE RAY or LUCILE RYAN
Son	JAMES EARL RAY
Son	JERRY RAY
Son	JACK RAY
Son	FRANKLIN DELEANOR RAY

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[REDACTED]
Daughter
Daughter
Daughter

MELBA MARIE RAY
CAROL RAY
SUSAN RAY

He advised that this was all of the members of the family with whom he was acquainted and he felt this included the entire family.

He stated that when the family moved from Quincy, Illinois, in approximately 1965, the mother, LUCILE RYAN, moved to Alton, Illinois; however, during this period of time in approximately 1952, the father had run off with some woman and had gone to St. Louis, Missouri, to live.

After the father left, the entire family became practically wards of the court in charity cases and that Catholic charities had furnished most of the subsistence and supervision of the children.

He advised that several of the younger children of the family, including FRANKLIN DELEANOR RAY, CAROL RAY, SUSAN RAY and MELBA MARIE RAY, had been placed in a Catholic orphanage in Alton, Illinois.

He advised that during the period of time that he kept MELBA MARIE RAY in his home that she seemed to think a lot of JACK RAY and JERRY RAY; however, she never spoke favorably of JAMES EARL RAY or JIMMY RAY and often stated that she had no feeling for JIMMY as he was bad. He stated that he did not know the reason for this feeling; however, that JAMES EARL RAY had never to his knowledge contacted MELBA MARIE for any reason.

PARSONS advised that when JACK RAY had served a period of time in prison, he had gone to Mt. Prospect, Illinois, in the Chicago area, to work at a golf course and he had also obtained JERRY RAY a job at that golf course. PARSONS advised that this was several years before and he was not sure if this would be in the late 1950s or the early 1960s.

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PARSONS advised that LUCILE RYAN had worked as a prostitute in Quincy, Illinois, [REDACTED]

PARSONS advised that he had never heard of JAMES EARL RAY working any where and from his knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY and that family, he did not know of any racial hatred or dislike of Negroes by the family. He stated, however, that he did hear JERRY RAY mention one time after being in St. Charles Reformatory, St. Charles, Illinois, in approximately 1952 or 1953 that he had had considerable trouble with Negroes at St. Charles. He stated that he had found this to be so with most white prisoners who had been in a penitentiary with Negroes and that sometimes there seems to develop some type of racial difficulty at prisons.

PARSONS advised that at the present time, MELBA MARIE RYAN [REDACTED] He stated that she had been arrested in Quincy on several occasions for breaking out window lights with a cross and claimed that God had told her to do this. He advised that MELBA MARIE will make a cross out of a large two by four and smash window lights on occasions. He stated he did not know of any violence on any other member of the family.

PARSONS advised that he had not had any recent contact during the last four years with any member of the family other than MELBA MARIE RYAN but he knew that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and that SUSAN RYAN was either adopted by some family in Quincy or else was placed in a foster home. He stated that the case worker for Catholic charities in Quincy, Illinois, should be able to furnish background information concerning the family.

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On April 22, 1968, Circuit Judge RICHARD SCHOLZ, Quincy, Illinois, made available the dependency files concerning the LUCILE RYAN family in Quincy, Illinois.

The file contained the following information:

On March 9, 1955, five members of the family became wards of Adams County Circuit Court, Quincy, Illinois. The file showed the following to be the complete list of the members of the family:

Father	GERALD RYAN
Mother	LUCILE MAHER RYAN
Son	JAMES, age 26, whereabouts not known
Daughter	MARJORIE, died at age 2
Son	JOHN, age 24, Pontiac Prison
Son	JERRY, age 20, Parolee from Pontiac
Daughter	MELBA, age 16
Daughter	CAROL, age 14, living with mother
Son	FRANKLIN, age 12, Catholic Children's Home, Alton, Illinois
Daughter	SUZAN, age 8, Catholic Children's Home, Alton, Illinois
Son	

On that date, MELBA, CAROL, FRANKLIN, SUZAN and became wards of the Adams County Court.

The file showed that MELBA MARIE RYAN was born at Macomb, Illinois, and was taken from GEORGE PARSONS, Supervisor, Illinois Youth Commission, who had been caring for MELBA on June 28, 1955 and was given to a Mrs. TURNER FOLEY, 332 North 24th Street, Quincy, Illinois.

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On 7/55 [REDACTED]

On 8/9/55 MELBA MARIE RYAN [REDACTED]

On 3/20/56 Dr. GRAVIS SMITH, Beverly Farms,
Godfrey, Illinois, had found [REDACTED]

Judge SCHOLZ advised that this was due to

LUCILE RYAN [REDACTED]

He advised that LUCILE RYAN had worked as a prostitute during most of her life and that the area around 214 Spring Street was an area infested by houses of prostitution at the time of the RYAN/RAY family lived in that area. He stated that there had been testimony that LUCILE RYAN had attempted to solicit prostitution dates for herself in a tavern [REDACTED]

On 8/6/57 MELBA MARIE RYAN [REDACTED]

On 10/24/57 custody of FRANKLIN RYAN and SUSAN RYAN was given to the Catholic Charities of Springfield, Illinois.

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On 11/26/57 [REDACTED]

On 8/21/58 a court order gave custody of MELBA MARIE RYAN, CAROL RYAN, FRANKLIN D. RYAN and SUZAN RYAN and [REDACTED] to the Catholic Charities, Springfield, Illinois.

A notation was contained in the file that on 7/57 LUCILE RYAN moved to St. Louis, Missouri, and was residing at 1135 South Tenth Street, Apartment 8, St. Louis, Missouri.

At that time the father of the RYAN children, GERALD RYAN or GERALD RAY, was residing at 4149 West Pine Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

The file contained information that [REDACTED]

On 6/30/60 a letter was addressed to the Court from Mrs. JENNY RAYNES from St. Louis, Missouri.

Judge SCHOLZ advised that apparently this would be a woman living with the father of the RYAN children.

On 12/28/60 JERRY RAYNES was shown residing at 1727 South Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri; his DOB was shown as 11/24/1899, and employed by J & R Auto Sales, St. Louis, Missouri. At that time he was living with daughter, CAROL RYAN, DOB 1/30/41, who was employed by the Kresge Company in the St. Louis area.

At this time JERRY RAYNES gave JACK RANDOLPH, 5901 South Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri, as a reference. The file showed that JACK RANDOLPH was the owner of J & R Auto Sales and that RAYNES was employed as a car salesman on a used car lot for RANDOLPH.

The file showed that custody of FRANKLIN D. RYAN was given to his father JERRY RAYNES, 1727 South Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri, on 3/30/60.

Judge SCHOLZ advised that FRANKLIN D. RYAN had died in approximately 1962 or 1963 when an automobile in which he was riding drove into the Mississippi River in West Quincy, Missouri. He advised that any records concerning the death of FRANKLIN D. RYAN would be in Missouri.

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Judge SCHOLZ advised that FRANKLIN D. RYAN was also known as BUZZY RYAN and that possibly some people would not know the true name of FRANKLIN D. RYAN.

The file showed that FRANKLIN D. RYAN was first declared a dependent on 9/8/52 and at that time was residing at 214 1/2 Spring Street.

Included in the FRANKLIN D. RYAN section of the dependency records was a letter dated 3/29/59 from LUCILE RYAN, his mother, who at that time was residing at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri. In the letter she stated that "JIMMY is going to Chicago". The letter indicated that at that time JIMMY was residing with LUCILE RYAN at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

The file contained information showing that before 9/24/59 Mrs. LUCILE BERNES, aka LUCILE RAY and LUCILE RYAN resided 1209 East Fourth Street, Alton, Illinois, and that she had moved from that address to 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis.

A notation was contained in the file that on 8/20/59 LUCILE RYAN's son, JAMES EARL RAY, and an accomplice JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN were arrested for an armed robbery of a supermarket in Alton, Illinois, and that this matter was pending in Circuit Court, Madison County, Illinois.

The file contained a section concerning JERRY W. RYAN, DOB 7/16/35. [REDACTED]

At that time his father was GERALD RYAN, 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois, and mother, LUCILE RYAN, at same address.

Psychological tests given JERRY W. RYAN at that time [REDACTED]

The file showed that SUZAN RYAN, aka SUSANNE RYAN, DOB 4/28/47, had been a ward of the court from 9/8/52 until 4/15/65 when she was discharged from the supervision of the court.

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HAZEL HAMILTON, Case Worker, Catholic Charities, Quincy, Illinois, had been SUZAN RYAN's supervisor since 3/54.

The file showed SUZAN RYAN resided at Catholic Children's Home, Alton, Illinois, from 3/8/54 until 1961.

The file showed that the RYAN children had an uncle, WILLIAM E. MAHER, who resided 1118 East Seventh Street, Alton, Illinois.

Also, the file included that an aunt, Mrs. SADIE FITZSIMMONS, address unknown, visited SUZAN RYAN while under supervision.

On 9/2/59 SUZAN RYAN had apparently run away from the supervision of the Catholic Children's Home and was located in Alton, Illinois, with a Mrs. MARY MAHER.

On 8/31/59 SUZAN RYAN was located with her mother, 1209 East Fourth Street, Alton, Illinois, where the mother lived under the name of BERNES. Apparently at one time the mother had resided at a home in St. Louis that was condemned at which time she had moved to Alton, date of the move or other information not shown.

The file contained information that JAMES RYAN resided at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri, or 1727 South Eleventh Street, St. Louis, Missouri, where he lived with CAROL RYAN. The file did not indicate whether this was the father or son, JAMES RYAN.

The file contained a letter dated 3/30/60 that JACK was going to Chicago and that he had been held "for those licenses".

The file showed that MELBA RYAN, CAROL RYAN, and FRANKLIN RYAN were born in St. Louis County, Missouri, and SUZAN and , Quincy, Illinois.

FOIA(b) (6)
FOIA(b) (7). - (C)

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On 4/22/68 HAZEL HAMILTON, Case Worker, Catholic Charities, 510 Jersey Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed and furnished the following information.

She advised that sometime around 1948 the RYAN family or the RAY family of which EARL RAY, FBI #306443A, is a member, moved to Quincy, Illinois.

HAZEL HAMILTON advised that the RAY family moved to Quincy, Illinois, from Des Moines, Iowa, and that the family had moved to Des Moines from Ewing, Missouri. She advised that the family apparently changed names whenever it suited them and she knew that the family had used names including RAY, RYAN, BERNES, RAYNS, and RAYNES.

She advised that the mother and father of JAMES EARL RAY and the other children were absolutely no good and that when this family first moved to Quincy, Illinois, some member of the family was working at the Hotel Lincoln Douglas.

She advised that five of the children, MELBA MARIE RYAN, CAROL RYAN, FRANKLIN RYAN, SUZIE RYAN, and [REDACTED] had at times been under the supervision of Catholic Charities and had been wards of the Adams County Court.

She advised that she had had very little contact with the three older brothers, JAMES EARL RAY, JERRY RAY or JERRY RYAN, and JOHN RAY or JACK RYAN. She stated that the youngest daughter, SUZAN RYAN, graduated from Notre Dame High School, Quincy, Illinois, in approximately 1965, after which she moved to Chicago, Illinois, and the last known address she had for SUZIE was Apartment 809, 117 North Dearborn, Chicago, where she lived with a JANET VAIR.

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In 1963 she had information that the father, living under the name of JERRY RAYNE, was residing at RFD, Clarence, Missouri.

In 1963 FRANKLIN D. RYAN had died in West Quincy, Missouri, and was later buried.

She advised that she does not know what exact year the family moved to Quincy, but thought it was around 1948 and stated that definitely JAMES EARL RAY was the oldest child in this family. She listed the children as follows in order of age:

Son	JAMES EARL RAY
Son	JOHN RAY
Son	JERRY RAY
Daughter	MELBA RAY
Daughter	CAROL RAY
Son	FRANKLIN D. RAY
Daughter	SUZAN RAY

She advised that she knew that the father of this group of children had used the name of JAMES RAY, GERALD RAY, JAMES RYAN and GERALD RYAN, as well as JERRY. She stated that the father RAY had been a ladies' man and it was her understanding that he had lived with many women but had probably never married any other than the mother of the children.

She advised that a Mrs. MAHER was the grandmother of the children, and in the past had induced them to run away from home and apparently had died in St. Louis while Mrs. MAHER was living with LUCILE RYAN.

She advised that when CAROL RAY was fourteen or fifteen years old that LUCILE RAY, the mother, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and that she believed that CAROL would be very difficult to manage when it came to furnishing information concerning relatives.

She felt that the entire family is close enough to the criminal element that the family has developed an attitude of not cooperating with the law and she feels that it is possible that any member of the family might harbor JAMES EARL RAY; however, she stated that this is merely a personal belief and she had no information that the family had ever harbored anyone.

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MWO:mpb

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
MACK W. OLIVER, Jr.

At Quincy, Illinois

On April 24, 1968, Miss Elizabeth Roth, Manager, Quincy Credit Bureau, advised that she had a file for JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, Jr. and that this individual had been in her files since 1950. Miss ROTH stated that RYAN's address in 1950 was 214 Spring Street; in 1954 the Tremont Hotel; and in 1956, 339 $\frac{1}{2}$ South 7th Street. Miss ROTH advised that according to her file, JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, Jr., along with JAMES A. ALDERTON, LONNIE RIFE, EUGENE BARRIGAR, and FLOYD SIDENER, sought parole from the Menard State Penitentiary on August 29, 1958. Miss ROTH stated that she had no information on JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, Jr., since the 1950's.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for LUCILLE RYAN and that she had had this file since 1954. Miss ROTH said that the only address she had for LUCILLE RYAN was 536 York, Quincy, Illinois. Miss ROTH said that according to her information, LUCILLE RYAN was arrested on July 19, 1954, by local authorities, for assault and battery and again on August 24, 1957, for larceny, and that she was supposed to have robbed JOHN B. THOMPSON of the Pacific House. Miss ROTH said that she had one collection on LUCILLE RYAN and that the collection was in 1961 for the Bringaze Grocery Store of Quincy.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for SUSAN RYAN and that she had been in file since September 15, 1965. Miss ROTH advised that she had two addresses for SUSAN RYAN, 129 $\frac{1}{2}$ North 9th Street and Fowler, Illinois. Miss ROTH advised that according to her information, SUSAN RYAN moved from Quincy, Illinois, on June 23, 1966, to 1117 North Dearborn, Chicago.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for MELBA RYAN who resides at the Virginia Hotel, and this name had been in file since February 27, 1966. Miss ROTH stated that she had no further information concerning MELBA RYAN.

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Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for GERALD RAYNES since October 24, 1940, and that RAYNES was 38 years of age at that time. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information, RAYNES was living at R.R. #1, Ewing, Missouri, his wife was LUCILLE, and that he had four children (no names). Miss ROTH said that she had no information concerning GERALD RAYNES since 1948. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information, GERALD RAYNES came to Quincy, Illinois, from St. Louis, Missouri, and gave the following addresses and places of employment for GERALD RAYNES:

Addresses

Date

1507 North 4th
Quincy, Illinois

September 28, 1944

Adams, Illinois

January 13, 1948

214 Spring Street
Quincy, Illinois

November 12, 1961

Date

Employment

October 24, 1940
January 13, 1948

Gardner, Denver
Novelty salesman for
BILL POPP.

Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for RUBY CARPENTER since May 25, 1964, and that RUBY CARPENTER came to Quincy, Illinois, from Clarence, Missouri. Miss ROTH stated that RUBY CARPENTER worked for the State of Illinois, Family and Children Service, and gave the following addresses that she had for RUBY CARPENTER:

1711 $\frac{1}{2}$ Broadway
Quincy, Illinois

410 North 9th Street
Quincy, Illinois

630 North 6th Street
Quincy, Illinois.

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Miss ROTH advised that she had a file for JAMES RAY which she had crossreferenced with JOHN W. RAY and that she had had this file since December of 1966. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information, JAMES RAY turned himself into the Adams County Sheriff's Office on March 3, 1967, and advised them that he was wanted in Ogden, Utah. Miss ROTH said that on June 15, 1967, RAY committed himself to the Veterans Alcoholic Hospital in Jacksonville, Illinois. Miss ROTH said she had four addresses for RAY which are as follows:

324 York Street
Quincy, Illinois

221 South 5th Street
Quincy, Illinois.

323 York Street
Quincy, Illinois

1201 South Main Street
Jacksonville, Illinois.

Miss ROTH said that she had no further information concerning JAMES RAY.

Miss ROTH stated that she a file for JOHNNY LARRY RAY since April 8, 1953, and that he was 23 years of age at that time. Miss ROTH stated that JOHNNY LARRY RAY was sentenced to serve from three to four years, on June 2, 1953, at the Menard State Penitentiary, for auto theft. Miss ROTH stated that according to her information that JOHNNY LARRY RAY attempted to escape from the Adams County Jail on May 24, 1953. Miss ROTH said the only address she had for JOHNNY LARRY RAY was 214 Spring Street, Quincy, Illinois.

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B. MELBA MARIE RYAN

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On 4-20-68, MELBA MARIE RYAN was interviewed at the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Ill.

MELBA MARIE RYAN furnished the following information to SA ELYON H. DAVIS and ASAC DONALD T. SULLIVAN:

MELBA MARIE RYAN advised that she is the sister of JAMES EARL RAY and identified a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, mated to Missouri Department of Corrections on 3-17-60, as her brother. She advised that she had only seen her brother JAMES EARL RAY three or four times during her life time

RYAN advised that she has been living at the Virginia Hotel since December, 1967, and has had no contact with JAMES EARL RAY since his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

She advised that she last saw JAMES EARL RAY around 1959 when he was living in St. Louis, Missouri, at a boarding house operated by their mother, LUCILE RYAN. She advised that she was staying with her mother, LUCILE RYAN at that time and that JAMES EARL RAY stayed with them for approximately six months.

She advised that she has never received a letter from JAMES EARL RAY in her life and had no idea as to his present whereabouts.

She advised that her mother is presently deceased and that her father is approximately 70 years of age. She stated that he was living in Missouri; however, she stated that she had talked to him on the previous night on the

telephone and he did not want to furnish his present address to anyone. She stated for this reason she would not give the FBI the address of her father.

She advised that she has received letters in her life from her brother JOHN RAY or JOHN RYAN and also from JERRY RAY, aka JERRY RYAN. She advised that the real name of the family is RAY and that when the family moved from Ewing, Missouri, to Quincy, Illinois, the mother changed the name from RAY to RYAN inasmuch as they were going to St. Bonaface Catholic School in Quincy and the mother thought that RYAN sounded more Catholic than RAY.

She advised that her father once had a brother named EARL RAY; however, he is presently deceased.

MELBA RYAN furnished the following list of her brothers and sisters:

Brother	JAMES EARL RAY
Brother	JOHN RAY, aka
	JOHN RYAN,
	JACK RYAN
Brother	JERRY RAY, aka
	JERRY RYAN
Sister	CAROL PEPPER
Sister	SUSAN RYAN
	Whereabouts unknown
Brother	MAX RYAN
	Whereabouts unknown

MELBA RYAN advised that she also had a brother named FRANKLIN DELANOR RYAN who had drowned in the Mississippi River around 1963. She stated also an older sister had died in a fire in Ewing, Missouri, before the birth of MELBA RYAN.

She stated that when she knew her brother JAMES EARL RAY around 1959 he had mentioned at that time he might go back to Germany inasmuch as he liked Germany when he was stationed there in the Army. She also was under the belief that JAMES EARL RAY had had a girlfriend in Germany; however, she had no knowledge of any contact RAY had with anyone in Germany since his discharge from the service. She thought that he had been discharged sometime during the 1940s.

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She advised that she had moved to Quincy, Illinois, with her mother and father approximately 1948 when she was 10 years of age.

She stated around 1953 her father had left the family and that her mother had, at that time, "put several members of the family out for adoption", and the family had not been very close since that period of time.

The following physical description of MELBA MARIE RYAN was obtained during the interview:

Race	White
Sex	Female
Date of Birth	9-16-38
Place of Birth	Ewing, Missouri
Height	5'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	165 pounds
Build	Stout
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	None

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On 4-21-68, the files of the Quincy, Illinois, Police Department, were checked and revealed the following arrest record for MELBA MARIE RYAN, date of birth 9-16-38 at Ewing, Missouri:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
3-12-63	Mental Case	Released without Charge
2-13-66	Drunk	\$10.00 and Costs
4-24-66	Intoxication	\$10.00 and Costs
12-14-66	Drunk	Dismissed
12-14-66	Disorderly Conduct	Dismissed
12-30-67	Drunk	\$10.00 and Costs
8-22-67	Drunk	\$15.00 and Costs
9-18-67	Drunk	Dismissed
9-18-67	Interfering with an Officer	Dismissed
9-18-67	Criminal damage to property	20 days in County Jail

The following physical description of MELBA MARIE RYAN was obtained from the Quincy, Illinois, PD, as furnished by Captain HAROLD HUNSAKER of that Department:

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Place of Birth	Ewing, Missouri
Height	5'5½"
Weight	165 pounds
Build	Stout
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	On welfare subsistence
FBI #	33 271 C

A review of the records of the Quincy Police Department also showed a record for JOHNNY RAY, aka JOHN LARRY RAY and JOHN L. RAYNS and JACK RAYNS. This file showed JOHNNY RAY's date of birth to be 2-11-31, home address 214 Spring Street, hair brown.

The record showed he was 5'10" and weighed 160 pounds. The file contained the following arrests:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
4-7-53	Larcent of an Automobile	Illinois State Penitentiary, 5 - 10 years
2-18-60	Fictitious license	\$10.00 and costs

SI 44-561

EHD:ras

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 23, 1968, SAMUEL EDWARD HARPER, Desk Clerk, Virginia Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN, sister of JAMES EARL RAY, is still residing at that hotel. HARPER advised that very definitely RAY has not contacted anyone at the Virginia Hotel and that complete cooperation will be given the FBI in the matter concerning RAY by individuals connected with the Virginia Hotel. HARPER advised that he is certain WALTER TERRY RIFE has not had any contact with RAY anytime during the past several years.

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EHD/jac

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On May 1, 1968 and May 3, 1968, MELBA MARIE RYAN, Virginia Hotel, 234 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois, was re-interviewed by SA ELYON H. DAVIS. On each occasion, MELBA RYAN advised that she had no further information concerning the activities and whereabouts of her brother JAMES EARL RAY. She also advised that she had no further information of value concerning any member of the family. She stated that she had been in contact with her father residing at Center, Missouri as well as her father's ex-wife RUBY CARPENTER who lived in Quincy, Illinois. She stated she had also contacted MABEL FULLER who resides in Quincy, Illinois and all of these individuals disclaim any knowledge of the whereabouts or activities of her brother JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that she felt that all members of the family that she had contacted would cooperate in attempting to locate RAY and that she would furnish any information that came to her attention concerning any of his activities.

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EHD/jac

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ELYON H. DAVIS at Quincy, Illinois.

Daily surveillances were conducted on a spot basis by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK OLIVER at the Virginia Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, where MELBA MARIE RYAN, sister of JAMES EARL RAY resides.

On May 10, 1968, Detective DONALD CAPPS, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, advised that Detectives of that Police Department daily and nightly check the Virginia Hotel. He advised that all members of the Quincy Police Department and especially the Quincy, Illinois Detective Bureau carry photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and if any information is developed concerning MELBA MARIE RYAN having visitors at the Virginia Hotel, this information will be immediately furnished to the FBI.

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C. SUSAN DONIAN

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
WILLIAM ROBERTS, III:

On April 20, 1968, Father JAMES BRINKS, St. Aloysius Church, Springfield, Illinois, telephonically contacted the Springfield Division and advised he had known subject's sister, SUE since she was a child, and in an effort to help locate and interview her, he advised he was in possession of a newspaper article of April, 1967, in the Chicago "Tribune" regarding SUE, which showed her to be going under the name LEE RILEY and to be working as a go-go dancer in the Bourbon Street Club at 936 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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MWO:mpb

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FOIA(b)(6)

FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

The following investigation was conducted by SA
MACK W. OLIVER, Jr.

At Quincy, Illinois

On April 22, 1968, Sister CATHERINE, Principal, Notre Dame High School, advised that she had a SUSAN J. RYAN graduate from Notre Dame High School on June 6, 1965.

Sister CATHERINE stated that SUSAN J. RYAN entered Notre Dame High School on September 8, 1961, and that she came from the Children's Home at Alton, Illinois.

Sister CATHERINE stated that while SUSAN J. RYAN was a student at Notre Dame High School, she lived with Mr. and Mrs. ROMAN KLINNER of Rural Route Number 3, Quincy, Ill.

Sister CATHERINE said that a transcript of her grades were mailed to the Gem City College on June 2, 1965, and that it was her understanding that RYAN had received a scholarship from the National Secretary's Association.

Sister CATHERINE said that she understood that RYAN did not accept the scholarship and that immediately after graduation, she moved from the KLINNER's residence to Chicago, Illinois, where she was attending a modeling school. Sister CATHERINE gave the following information and description from SUSAN J. RYAN's file:

Name	SUSAN JANE RYAN
Date of birth	[REDACTED]
Place of birth	Adams County, Illinois
Father	JERRY (no last name)
Mother	LUCILLE MAHER

Sister CATHERINE said that according to her information SUSAN RYAN had four older brothers, one younger brother, two older sisters, but that she gave the name of none of these brothers or sisters.

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Sister CATHERINE stated that her file contained a photograph of SUSAN JANE RYAN and that it would be available if needed in the future.

Sister CATHERINE stated that she could give no further information concerning SUSAN J. RYAN.

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D. FRANK RYAN

SI 44-561

On April 22, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE at St. James Trade School in Springfield, Illinois:

Brother Aequiduis advised that he had a Franklin Ryan in attendance from June, 14, 1958, until January, 1959. He advised that he had no personal records available which might be of lead value, and that the above dates were all that indicated that FRANKLIN RYAN had ever attended this school. He advised that he had no record of any FRANKLIN DELANO (BUZZIE) RYAN. A check of the name RAY provided no information which might be of lead value.

On April 20, 1968, MELBA MARIE RYAN, Sister of subject, advised that a brother, FRANKLIN DELANO RYAN had drowned in the Mississippi River in approximately 1963.

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FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)



SI 44-561

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On 4/24/68, the following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE at Springfield, Illinois:

Right Reverend Monseniour CASSIN, Director of Catholic Charity of Springfield, 830 East Monroe Street, Springfield, Illinois, advised that he would not disclose the adopting parents of [REDACTED] CASSIN said that the boy had been under the Catholic Charity control ever since he was a young boy and would have no knowledge of his brother JAMES EARL RAY. He further advised that it was his opinion that to release the names of the adopting parents plus their whereabouts would only bring grief and injury to a family and to the young boy who he felt should not be involved with the element being investigated in this matter.

Miss AGNUS GIBBONS, Clerk, Domestic Relations Branch of Sangamon County Circuit Court, advised that she could not produce the records of the adoption of [REDACTED] without a court order being obtained from one of the judges.

On this date, Judge DOUGLAS issued a court order on this date to have the records checked and the records were reviewed in the office at the County Building.

The records reflected the following information:

[REDACTED]

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FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

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F. JOHN and JERRY RAY

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Re: JOHN LARRY RAY:

Springfield indices reflect a closed Selective Service case for subject's brother, JOHN LARRY RAYNS, also known as Jack Rayns, also known as John Larry Ray. A review of the file was made by SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III and the only new information developed was the name of an aunt of the subject MILDRED MAHER, listed address as 1118 East- 74th Street, Alton, Illinois.

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Warden MAX WRY, of the Menard State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois, made available records at Menard Prison to SA LARRY W. GREEN for examination:

JOHN LARRY RYAN, was released from Menard State Penitentiary, 2/1/60. He was incarcerated there on a larceny of motor vehicle charge. His registration number at Menard is 23401. RYAN left Menard on a full discharge and immediately after his discharge, made application to the State of Illinois to have his civil rights restored. He wanted the results of this application sent to an address which was given in the record as 1728 North 16th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

It was discovered during examination of the above records, that JOHN LARRY RYAN's brother, JERRY RYAN, also was incarcerated at Menard State Penitentiary. JERRY RYAN had number 23737; from December, 30, 1954, to December 12, 1955, both RYANS were in the Menard State Prison together. Also from August, 1, 1953, to February 1, 1960, both were incarcerated at Menard at the same time.

Both RYANS listed their relatives the same. Correspondence in the file of JOHN LARRY RYAN while at Menard Prison consisted generally of correspondence going out to his mother, LUCILLE RYAN, 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri. Other communications were those to his sister, MELBA RYAN, 1201 South Main, Jacksonville, Illinois.

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Other sisters are CAROL RYAN, 1727 South 11th, St. Louis, Missouri; and CAROL ROGERS, 1701 Washington, Quincy, Illinois.

Listed as brothers in the file of RYAN are brother JERRY RYAN, the above mentioned, who was released May 6, 1960, from Menard. JERRY was charged with larceny and was from Adams County, Illinois. Also listed as a brother was JAMES RAY, Quincy, Illinois, no other address shown. It could not be determined if this JAMES E. RAY is identical with subject.

Other relatives noted in the file were MARY MAHER, Tremont Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, who is the grandmother of JOHN LARRY RYAN. Other outgoing communications were to RALPH HOWARD, Indianapolis, Indiana, no other address shown, and a communication in 1960 was directed to JAMES E. RAY, addressed to Leavenworth Prison, Kansas. Again, it is not known or is it shown by the record that this JAMES E. RAY is identical with subject.

Correspondence noted in the file of JERRY RYAN were outgoing communications going to PAT WITT, 3971 West Minister, St. Louis, Missouri. and RUBY DOBYNS, 3971 West Minister, St. Louis, Missouri. One communication was addressed to JERRY LANCASTER, 4431 North 19th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

As above stated, the relatives shown for both JERRY RYAN and JOHN LARRY RYAN were identical in each file.

No other information helpful to this investigation was noted in these files.

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G. RUBY CARPENTER

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On 4/23/68, RUBY CARPENTER, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed at her home by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK W. OLIVER. She furnished the following information.

In 1952, she was working in Quincy, Illinois at the Lincoln-Douglas Hotel. Also working at the hotel at that time was a JAMES GERALD RAY. She and RAY started going together and left Quincy, Illinois together and went to St. Louis, Missouri to live.

She stated at the time she left Quincy with RAY, he was married to LUCILLE RAY or LUCILLE RINE. RAY and his wife LUCILLE had seven children by their marriage to her knowledge. These included JAMES EARL RAY, JOHN RAY, also known as JACK RAY or JACK RINE, JERRY RAY, CAROL RAY, FRANKLIN D. RAY, SANDRA RAY, and

She stated that before the RAY family moved to Quincy, Illinois from Ewing, Missouri, the father, JAMES GERALD RAY had obtained a job with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad and had moved from Ewing, Missouri to Galesburg, Illinois where he worked for a short time as a switchman. He obtained a Social Security card before starting to work for the railroad under the name of RAYNES and he used the name of RAYNES during the time that she lived with RAY in St. Louis. She advised that she and RAY lived together in St. Louis from 1952 until 1961 and on 8/1/61, she married JAMES GERALD RAY at Palmyra, Missouri, the marriage vows and services being performed by the Methodist minister in that town. They lived together starting on that date on farm, Rural Route 1, Clarence, Missouri and this continued until RAY left her in December of 1963. She then obtained a divorce from RAY in Palmyra, Missouri in 1964 and returned to Quincy, Illinois. She stated that after he left her, JAMES GERALD RAY moved to Center, Missouri where he has continued to reside on a farm.

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She advised that she has been in frequent contact with JAMES GERALD RAY since their separation in 1963 and that MELBA MARIE RYAN, the daughter of JAMES GERALD RAY also lives in Quincy and she occasionally is in contact with MELBA. She advised however that she has not been in contact with MELBA since Christmas, 1967 until 4/19/68 when MELBA called her to talk to her concerning JAMES EARL RAY and RAY being charged concerning the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. She advised also on that date she had telephonically contacted JAMES GERALD RAY and at that time the father had stated that he hoped his son, JAMES EARL RAY was caught as soon as possible so that this thing would end. She advised that she is certain that JAMES GERALD RAY does not know of the whereabouts of his son JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that at the present time, JAMES GERALD RAY was using the name of GERRY RAYNES.

She advised that of the entire RAY family, she considers JACK RAY or JACK RINE to be closer to JAMES EARL RAY than any of the remainder of the family. She stated that the only time that JAMES EARL RAY ever lived with JAMES GERALD RAY and herself was sometime around 1959 when he worked as a baker in St. Louis. She stated that during this period of time, he also resided with his mother and grandmother, Mrs. MAHER at 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri. She advised that during this period of time, she and JAMES GERALD RAY were living on 1727 South 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

She advised that JAMES EARL RAY is supposed to have learned the trade of a baker in prison and that he worked at one of the bakeries in St. Louis around 1959. She had no idea as to the name of the bakery or the exact location. She stated that he also had his own apartment while in St. Louis as well as living with both his mother and his father. She stated that she had not seen him since he went to prison around 1960 and has had no contact with JAMES EARL RAY since she and the subject's father moved to Clarence, Missouri on 8/1/61.

She advised that the subject's father JAMES GERALD RAY was an excellent car salesman and did quite well as a car salesman for a used car lot in St. Louis. Since 1961, however, he has worked on a farm, first, the one

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owned by her at Clarence, Missouri and afterwards on a farm at Center, Missouri.

She advised that he has never married and she does not know of any close girlfriends of JAMES EARL RAY. She advised that she did not know of the identity of any girlfriends.

RUBY CARPENTER stated that she is certain that JAMES EARL RAY does not know of her present whereabouts. She stated that she is presently employed babysitting and doing housework for various individuals in Quincy and that in the event she learns something concerning JAMES EARL RAY's whereabouts, she will immediately notify the FBI.

The Harboring Statute was explained by SA DAVIS to RUBY CARPENTER.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On May 1, 1968, GARY SHELTON, 404 Oak Street, Quincy, Illinois, age 16, advised that RUBY CARPENTER is employed at his home as a babysitter and housekeeper during the daytime for the nine SHELTON minor children. After viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, SHELTON advised that this individual had never been to his house to his knowledge and he has never heard RUBY CARPENTER mention JAMES EARL RAY. He advised that he would immediately notify SA DAVIS of any information coming to his attention concerning any visitors to the home of RUBY CARPENTER and concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS:

On May 3, 1968, RUBY CARPENTER, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, was re-interviewed at her home and furnished the following information:

She has had no contact with anyone who has any information concerning the whereabouts or activities of JAMES EARL RAY since last being contacted by the FBI.

She advised that definitely JAMES EARL RAY had lived with RUBY CARPENTER and her former husband, JAMES GERALD RAYNES who was commonly known as JERRY RAYNES or JERRY RAYNS in St. Louis, Missouri, sometime around 1959 or 1960. Also, during this period of time, JAMES EARL RAY had resided with his mother, LUCILE RYAN and grandmother, Mrs. MAHER, in St. Louis. This was shortly before he was sent to prison to the Missouri State Penitentiary in either 1959 or 1960.

Sometime during the period of time while JAMES EARL RAY was in St. Louis, Missouri, around 1959 or 1960 he definitely made a trip to Mexico. She had no idea as to the location of the town in Mexico that he visited; however, she remembered hearing him speak of his trip into Mexico.

She advised that on the previous day, May 2, 1968, Mrs. FRANK FULLER, 601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, had visited in RUBY CARPENTER's home. Mrs. MABEL FULLER, at that time, had advised that she had heard nothing concerning JAMES EARL RAY's whereabouts and she stated that Mrs. FULLER did not know anything concerning the activities of RAY. She stated that Mrs. FULLER has always been very defensive concerning her relatives and that Mrs. FULLER stated that she did not believe her nephew, JAMES EARL RAY, committed any crime or was involved in any way in the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

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RUBY CARPENTER advised that she had not recently talked to MELBA MARIE RYAN but that when last contacted by MELBA RYAN approximately one week before, MELBA had no information concerning the activities of JAMES EARL RAY, and had no information concerning his whereabouts. RUBY CARPENTER stated she doubted very much that JAMES EARL RAY would ever contact MELBA RYAN.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that she felt that her former husband, JERRY RAYNES, has had his phone disconnected inasmuch as she had tried several times during the past few days to call JERRY RAYNES at Center, Missouri. She stated that he has been "very jumpy" concerning JAMES EARL RAY and that she feels this is the reason that RAYNES had his phone disconnected. She stated that she is tempted to call RAYNES and was told that the phone was disconnected; however, she stated that a telephone strike was in existence and the possibility was that the calls did not go through.

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that she had no idea as to the present whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY's brother JERRY RAY or JERRY RYAN who is supposed to have disappeared from the Chicago area. She advised that sometime around April 25, 1968, JERRY RAY had called her from Chicago, Illinois, and asked her to speak to a Life magazine reporter. At that time, JERRY RAY had indicated that he wished his brother would surrender to the FBI.

She advised that she has not been contacted by CAROL PEPPER in any way and has no idea as to CAROL's present address. She also stated she had no information concerning the present whereabouts or address of JAMES EARL RAY's sister SUSAN; however, she did think SUSAN was in Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that she personally has very few visitors and every Monday through Friday she leaves her home at approximately 6:30 a.m. and walks to 404 Oak Street in Quincy, Illinois, where she is employed by the Child Welfare Department of the State of Illinois, as a babysitter and housekeeper in the daytime for the HOMER SHELTON family. She advised

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that HOMER SHELTON has nine minor children and that HOMER SHELTON's wife died in March, 1968, and she has been employed as a housekeeper for him since that time. She usually returns home in the afternoon sometime between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. after HOMER SHELTON returns home from work. She stated that HOMER SHELTON is employed at Moorman's Manufacturing Company.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that she did not feel that JAMES EARL RAY would have any information as to her present location. She again expressed the desire to aid the FBI in the apprehension of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that she would furnish any information that came to her attention concerning RAY's whereabouts or activities.

RUBY CARPENTER advised that her son JEROME CARPENTER is still in the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, for the crime of murder and she does not feel that he would have any information concerning the whereabouts of activities of JAMES EARL RAY.

On May 3, 1968, HOMER SHELTON, 404 Oak Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed and advised that RUBY CARPENTER is employed on a daily basis as a babysitter and housekeeper for his children at that address while he is working. SHELTON advised that he has nine minor children and three are not in school and that his wife died in March, 1968. He stated he has no information concerning any visitors who may have visited RUBY CARPENTER during the daytime at his home. He stated that she has never mentioned JAMES EARL RAY to him and after viewing photographs of RAY, advised that RAY has never been to his home and that he has never seen JAMES EARL RAY. SHELTON advised that he would notify the FBI of any information he learns concerning anyone contacting RUBY CARPENTER or any information concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ELYON H. DAVIS at Quincy, Illinois.

On May 1, 1968, Sergeant ROLAND HANSON, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, advised that he resides at 606 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois. He advised that RUBY CARPENTER who resides at 630 North Sixth Street is a neighbor of Sergeant HANSON. HANSON advised that he would notify the FBI of any visitors to or from the CARPENTER residence. Sergeant HANSON advised that Miss CARPENTER does not have many visitors and only goes to and from work each day after which time she seems to reside at her home by herself and she has very little contact with her neighbors.

On May 10, 1968 and May 13, 1968, Sergeant HANSON advised that he has not observed any visitors to the RUBY CARPENTER home since last being contacted by SA DAVIS.

Spot surveillances on a daily basis were conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK OLIVER at the residence of 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, for the period of May 1, 1968 through May 10, 1968. During this period of time, no visitors were observed entering or leaving the RUBY CARPENTER home at that address.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 23, 1968

RUBY SMITH CARPENTER was reinterviewed at her home, 630 North Sixth Street, Quincy, Illinois, after she telephonically contacted SA DAVIS and requested to be reinterviewed by him.

Mrs. CARPENTER furnished to SA DAVIS the following written statement which she stated she had written to give as exact account as possible of her knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY. The statement was on both sides of a white piece of paper and read as follows.

"Mr. Elyon Davis - Since you were here the last time I have thought of some things I would like to make clear, things I did not think of at first. First I know nothing of the whereabouts of James Earl Ray. I have seen him perhaps 6 times, the last in 1958 I believe. 2nd I know nothing about any unlawful acts of any of the Ray, Rayns, Ryan family. The only one of the family I have been closely associated with is the father, James Gerald Ray, who was my husband for about 3 years. We were divorced the 9th of December 1963. 3rd I have always lived an honest and lawabiding life. I have worked hard and supported myself entirely for 16 years and have helped others a great deal besides. Everything I have or ever had has been from honest and respectful work. No one has ever given me anything except my father, who left me some money at his death. 4th I would not accept anything obtained dishonestly if it were offered to me, which was not.

"I have seen many errors printed about the family. The headlines of the Herald Whig stating Ray's father has long local criminal record. An article in Chicago Daily News by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson stating the children were adopted by various persons. None of the children were adopted unless perhaps Max, the youngest. They also stated James Earl Ray was the product of a broken home. How could he be when he was 24 years old when the father left the home, and had been living away from home several years prior.

On 5/20/68 at Quincy, Illinois File # SI 44-561

by SA ELYON H. DAVIS /smr Date dictated 5/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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"This statement is written by me and is true and sincere.

"/s/ Ruby Smith Carpenter

"May 15, 1968"

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that her former husband, JAMES GERALD RAY, is still residing in Center, Missouri, under the name of JERRY RAYNS, and that he had his phone changed to an unlisted phone in order that he would not be bothered by crank calls. She stated that she is in contact occasionally with MELBA MARIE RYAN, the sister of JAMES EARL RAY, and with Mrs. FRANK FULLER, the aunt of JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that all members of the family tell her that they have no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY's whereabouts and will cooperate in the location of RAY.

Mrs. CARPENTER advised that she could not furnish any further information other than that previously furnished to the FBI.

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H. EARL EVERETT RAY

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On April 22, 1968, BILL KAUFMAN, Illinois State Board of Probation and Parole, advised of the following re captioned individual subject's uncle:

EARL RAY, also known as Earl Everett Ray, James Ryan, James Mc Carthy, James Patrick Clancy, Joe Roe, White, male, date of birth, May 5, 1904, place of birth, Quincy, Illinois, and as of 1949, 5' 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in height, 178 pounds, dark gray hair, light blue eyes, wife - AUDREY, divorced 1950, last known address, 1439 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois, criminal record dateing back to 1916, Menard, Illinois State Prison Numbers 6588 and 21025. Incarcerated at Menard 1925 to 1933 (assault to kill) and 1948 to 1955 (assault to mayhem - threw acid in wife's face), no FBI number available.

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On 4/22/68 Chief RAY WELSH, Quincy, Illinois Police Department, made available the records of the Quincy Police Department of EARL EVERETT RAY.

The files showed that EARL EVERETT RAY is holder of Peoria, Illinois PD #14439 and that on 8/23/43 EARL RAY, 1401 Cherry Street, was arrested for throwing acid in the face of his wife, Mrs. EARL RAY. This case was later closed and no prosecution was involved.

The file showed that EARL RAY was 43 years of age in 1943. On 8/25/47 EARL RAY was wanted by the Quincy PD on an assault to kill charge. This apparently also involved his wife. On 9/10/48 the files contain information that EARL RAY and his wife were involved in a fight and that her sister, DORIS, was a witness. At that time Mrs. RAY moved to 1403 Cherry Street and her sister was DORIS GODMAN, 645 College Street.

On 7/24/55 EARL RAY was arrested for the assault of YVONNE MC GINBERG, 415 York Street, Quincy, Illinois.

On 8/59 EARL RAY was arrested for assault and battery and the victims were AUDREY RAY, wife, and LEONA FERGUSON. This occurred at 1403 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois, after he had hit AUDREY RAY in the mouth and LEONA FERGUSON in the stomach. At that time EARL RAY was living at 1415 Cherry Street, Quincy, Illinois.

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AT GALESBURG, ILLINOIS:

On April 26, 1968, Mr. C. D. IREY, Special Agent, C B & Q Railroad, stated that a review of the employment files listed a file on EARL EVERETT RAY, subject's uncle, 164 South Academy Street, Galesburg, Illinois. He showed a previous address of 128 North 5th Street, Quincy, Illinois and listed LOUISA RAY as his Mother. The file indicated that he worked for the railroad for the period November 4, 1944, to November 17, 1944, 13 days. He listed former employment of April, 1934 to June, 1944 with Sunset Amusement Company, Excelsior Springs, Missouri and C B & Q Railroad, Omaha, Nebraska, and W. A. COLE, a fellow employee, does not recall RAY.

- Name checks at the Galesburg, Police Department, Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Credit Bureau failed to develop any information. The former residence area of 164 South Academy is now a cemetery.

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I. WILLIAM and MILDRED MAHER

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WILLIAM E. MAHER, Uncle of JAMES EARL RAY, was located at 712 Brown Street, Alton, Illinois April 22, 1968. He stated prior to RAY's entry into the Army, he worked at a shoe tannery, Hartford, Illinois, where he became associated with individual who had pro-Nazi leanings and RAY became anti-Negro and anti-Jewish as a result. In military service, RAY was in Germany where opinion crystalized.

MAHER stated he last saw RAY 10 or 12 years ago and to his knowledge, RAY has not been in Alton since 1959 when he was involved in an armed robbery. He stated he could suggest no one in the Alton area acquainted with RAY or to whom RAY might turn for help.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

WILLIAM and MILDRED MAHER, 712 Brown Street, Alton, Illinois advised they are the uncle and aunt of JAMES EARL RAY. They have advised that RAY has not been in contact with them for 10 or 12 years; that they do not believe he will contact them since they had a falling out when they last were together and that if RAY does contact them, or they think or anything that might be pertinent regarding him, they would get in touch with the FBI promptly.

With regard to other relatives of RAY, Mr. and Mrs. MAHER advised as follows:

Mrs. MARY MAHER,
Grandmother,
deceased

LUCILLE RYAN,
Mother
Deceased.

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA FRANK E. CORN, SR. and SA ROBERT C. HAINES:

AT ALTON, ILLINOIS:

From May 2, through May 14, 1968, physical surveillance of the residence of WILLIAM MAHER, 712 Brown Street, was instituted on a daily basis at varying times of the day and evening hours.

No unusual activity was noted during these surveillances.

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J. Mrs. FRANK (MABLE) FULLER

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On April 20, 1968, Mrs. MABLE FULLER, nee Ray, Paternal Aunt of Subject, Quinty, Illinois, stated very little contact with any member of family. No information regarding subject's whereabouts of or background. She last heard that SUSAN, subject's sister, in Chicago and married. Uncle, WILLIAM MAHER, an advertising service man and paint contractor as of 1960, believed either deceased or in San Francisco, California. WILLIAM MAHER, was born September 20, 1916 and has FBI # 768642.

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The following individuals in Quincy, Illinois, were recontacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS on the dates indicated by each name, at which time they could not furnish any information not already furnished concerning this matter:

WALTER TERRY RIFE
Virginia Hotel
April 30, 1968

SAMUEL EDWARD HARPER
Virginia Hotel
April 25, 1968 and
April 30, 1968

ART CONNORS
Virginia Hotel
April 30, 1968

EARL JACK HILAND
Sky Ride Inn Tavern
April 30, 1968

On April 26, 1968, MARGARET ROTH, Assistant Manager, Credit Bureau of Quincy, Inc., 226 North 5th Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised SA ELYON H. DAVIS that FRANK FULLER and wife, MABEL RAY FULLER, resided at 2601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, as of April 1, 1967. This was the last entry in the file. In 1958, FRANK FULLER was working for Heck Vending Machine Company, Quincy, Illinois. The file showed he was 68 years of age in 1967 and either retired or unemployed. The Credit Bureau did not contain any information as to relatives and the credit of the FULLER family was good.

MABEL RAY FULLER, 2601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, was reinterviewed on April 26, 1968, by SA's ELYON H. DAVIS and FRANK J. HABERSHAW.

Mrs. FULLER furnished the following information:

She has received no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY since last being interviewed by the FBI. She has not seen RAY since 1955 when her mother, the grandmother of JAMES EARL RAY, died.

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JAMES EARL RAY, died. He apparently arrived at the funeral services by himself and left by himself.

She advised that she is the sister of JAMES GERALD RAY, the father of JAMES EARL RAY. She has not seen JAMES GERALD RAY for a number of years and has not had any close contact with her brother JAMES GERALD RAY.

She stated that JAMES EARL RAY served in the United States Army in Germany, near the end of World War II, or after the war and this is the only overseas travel concerning RAY of which she has any knowledge. She stated that she did not consider herself to be the favorite aunt of JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that before he entered the service in the middle 1940's, he had lived with the grandmother named MAHER, in Alton, Illinois, and apparently he had worked for some "leather making outfit" in Alton.

Mrs. FULLER advised that all of the children of the RAY family were apparently put out for adoption some time around 1952 and that she personally did not know there had been a RAY child by the name of

She advised that until the FBI contacted her concerning JAMES EARL RAY, she did not even know that his mother LUCILLE was dead.

She advised that while JAMES EARL RAY was in prison at Jefferson City, Missouri, she had sent him mail on a number of occasions and had on occasion sent him small quantities of money. She stated that he had sent her two or three Christmas cards and this was the only contact she had with him.

Mrs. FULLER advised that apparently she had not been on JAMES EARL RAY's mailing list while in the penitentiary and he had smuggled out through other visitors and inmates Christmas cards to her on two or three occasions. These in turn were mailed to her.

She advised that on each one of these cards, he had signed them "JIMMY".

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She advised that EARL RAY was her brother and that he had died in Buffalo, New York, a number of years ago. She stated that JAMES EARL RAY probably had no knowledge of the death of EARL RAY or the whereabouts of EARL RAY at the time of death.

Mrs. FULLER advised that she and her husband are retired and spend almost all of their time at home. She stated they have very few visitors and she has practically no contact with other members of the RAY family.

She advised that she would cooperate with the FBI in this matter and furnish any information that comes to her attention.

FRANK FULLER, 2601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that he is the husband of MABEL RAY FULLER and that she is the aunt of JAMES EARL RAY.

FRANK FULLER advised he has no contact with members of the RAY family and he had no information concerning the whereabouts, activities or associates of JAMES EARL RAY.

FRANK FULLER advised he will furnish any information concerning any member of this family to the FBI.

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ELYON H. DAVIS at Quincy, Illinois.

ELMER BECKMAN, 2505 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that the FRANK FULLER family resides at 2601 Chestnut Street, Quincy, Illinois and that the family solely consists of FRANK FULLER and his wife MABEL FULLER. BECKMAN advised that he, after viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, had never seen this individual at the FULLER's house and he would immediately advise the FBI of any information concerning the activities of the FRANK FULLER family. He advised that FRANK FULLER is retired and that he and his wife spend almost all of their time at their own home. Occasionally, FRANK FULLER might work at a tavern in Quincy, Illinois, if a bartender could not be found a tavern on some given date.

ELMER BECKMAN was contacted concerning the activities at the FRANK FULLER house on May 1, 1968, May 6, 1968, and May 9, 1968, and on each occasion, BECKMAN advised that there had been no visitors to the FULLER house during that period of time.

Surveillances were conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and SA MACK OLIVER on the residence at 2601 Chestnut Street on a spot basis daily from May 1, 1968 to May 10, 1968. In this period of time, no activity was observed at the FULLER home and no visitors were observed at the FULLER home.

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IV. ASSOCIATES OF JAMES EARL RAY

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A. WALTER TERRY RIFE

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA LARRY W. GREEN:

The following correspondents were shown in WALTER
T. RIFE's correspondence file #31326 at Menard Prison,
Menard, Illinois:

Frequent letters to his wife, JAN RIFE, 1508
North Autumn, Peoria, Illinois;)prostitute)

Mother-in-law, Mrs. FRANK (JULIA) OWEN, 1508
North Autumn Lane, Peoria, Illinois;

Other Miscellaneous Correspondence:

U.S. Disciplinary Barrack
Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas;

GEORGE GINOS
Hillsboro, Illinois, June 19, 1964;

LEON SUTHERLAND,
First National Bank Building,
Peoria, Illinois,
July 7, 1964;

HAROLD MASON,
527 South Adams,
Peoria, Illinois
July 13, 1965

Peoria County Bar Association,
Box 209,
Peoria, Illinois,
July 17, 1964;

CECIL MC CRACKEN,
Greenville, Illinois
Circuit Court Clerk,
December 10, 1964;

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Bond County State's Attorney
December 15, 1964;

JAMES BAILEY (rejob);
Pekin, Illinois
RR 2,
November 3, 1965;

JOHN F. GRADY,
9 North County Street,
Waukegan, Illinois
April 25, 1966;

LAST ADDRESS: (May 19, 1966) paroled to FRANK OWENS,
1508 Peoria
(assumed 1508 North Autumn)

PREVIOUS INCARCERATION: Joliet Prison
April 16, 1959,
No. 22-674

BROTHER: FRED RIFE,
Lanark, Illinois;

SISTER: BETTY VOSS
227 Truman
Lanark, Illinois;

FRIEND: LINDA NIEDERS
General Delivery
Christopher, Illinois;

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The following agencies at Harrisburg, Illinois, were checked with negative results concerning possible location of MONAN LEE CRAWFORD and DARLENE CRAWFORD, sister and niece, respectively, of WALTER TERRY RIFE (associate of subject JAMES EARL RAY).

Postmaster
BILL MELTON,
Harrisburg, Illinois;

Sheriff CLIFTON JONES
Saline County Sheriff's Office;

Officer PAT ATKINSON,
Harrisburg, Illinois, Police Department;

ROY LANE,
Former trooper,
Illinois State Police;

RAY JOHNSON,
Operator
Little Ray's Bar-B-Que
Route 45;

VERNA STINSON
Saline County Credit Bureau

It is to be noted that all of the above persons remembered the CRAWFORDS but all advised the CRAWFORDS moved away during 1955 or 1956 and they have no knowledge of forwarding address or their present location.

On 4-20-68, WALTER TERRY RIFE was re-interviewed at the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and ASAC DONALD T. SULLIVAN.

RIFE furnished the following information:

RIFE advised that he had had no contact with JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, since he last saw RAY in the Federal Penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1957.

RIFE advised that the best he could remember concerning RAY that RAY had had close associates or relatives at one time in the Alton, Illinois, area. He stated that he felt that RAY had at one time hung out around taverns owned by TERRY TWEET in the Alton area.

RIFE advised that he knew that RAY had at one time close contact with some fence in Peoria, Illinois, to whom RAY sold stolen items. By this he stated that he meant that RAY was a thief and would steal anything during the period of time he knew RAY from the late 1940s until 1955 and this included household items, groups of burglaries of business establishments and such like and that RAY would get rid of hot items through a fence in Peoria. RIFE advised that he had no idea as to the identity of this fence.

RIFE stated that he (RIFE) had lived in the Peoria, Illinois, area until 1967 when RIFE moved to the home of his brother LONNIE RIFE at Baylis, Illinois. RIFE then in 2-68 had taken over the operation of the restaurant at the Virginia Hotel and had been operating this restaurant since that time.

RIFE again reiterated that any of the individuals who lived or worked at the Virginia Hotel could verify the fact that he had been at the Virginia Hotel for the period 3-27-68 through 4-4-68. He stated also that since he and his wife operated the restaurant together and since his wife

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had had a baby in 2-68, it had been necessary for him to work long hours and to also be at home on a regular basis to take care of the RIFE's three other children.

He again stated that members of the Quincy Police Force could verify that RIFE had been in Quincy on a daily basis inasmuch as the police checked the Virginia Hotel every night.

RIFE advised that he would be available for interviews by the FBI at any time and that in the event that he was not working or at his home 214 Lynn Street, Quincy, Illinois, SAMUEL EDNA HARPER, a Clerk at the Virginia Hotel, would know of his exact whereabouts, and RIFE could be reached in a short period of time.

RIFE advised that he could not remember anyone in the Quincy area who was close to the subject and could not think of anyone who might have any information concerning RAY.

RIFE advised that he did not feel that MELBA MARIE RYAN, the sister of the subject, has had any contact with RAY and he certainly is aware of the fact that MELBA MARIE RYAN

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The following investigation was conducted by SA'S ELYON H. DAVIS AND THOMAS M. SCHOENHOFER on 4-19-68:

Trooper EARL MC FEETERS, Illinois State Police, Hull, Illinois, advised that he has since 3-18-68 seen LONNIE RIFE and WALTER RIFE almost on a daily basis. He advised that until recently, WALTER RIFE had lived at the home of LONNIE RIFE; however, WALTER RIFE is now working at the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, Illinois, operating the restaurant in that Hotel. MC FEETERS advised that he does not believe either RIFE has made any long trips from the Quincy, Illinois, area or has been gone from Quincy, Ill., for any extended period of time during the past month.

On 4-19-68, Detectives DON CAPPS and HAROLD LAMB, Quincy, Ill., PD, advised that they are night detectives for that PD. Each advised that as a usual thing on their night routines they pass the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second St., Quincy, Ill. They advised that they cannot state for certain on any exact date that WALTER RIFE was at the Virginia Hotel; however, they have seen him there practically every night operating the restaurant in the Virginia Hotel. Each advised that RIFE certainly could not have been gone for any extended period of time from Quincy without their knowing of this and that RIFE was certainly not gone for several days at any time.

On 4-19-68, MARY JAN RIFE, home address 214 Lind Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed at her place of employment, the restaurant at the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois. She advised that she is married to WALTER TERRY RIFE and that her husband has been in Quincy, Illinois, for every day since February, 1968. She stated that her husband certainly was not gone any day from 3-27-68 through 4-4-68. She advised that he was working each day at the restaurant in the Virginia Hotel operated by her husband. She viewed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY,

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FBI # 306 443 A, made on 3-17-60. She advised that she had never seen this individual in her life and had never heard her husband speak concerning this individual. MARY JAN RIFE advised that she has been married to WALTER TERRY RIFE since 1961 and that during that period of time JAMES EARL RAY has never contacted him for any reason. She advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN resides at the Virginia Hotel and that shortly before being interviewed she had learned that MELBA MARIE RYAN was supposed to be the sister of the individual charged with the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. She advised this was the first time she had ever heard of JAMES EARL RAY and did not know that RAY was a brother to MELBA MARIE RYAN.

She also advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN [REDACTED]

On 4-19-68, SAMUEL EDWARD HARPER, Desk Clerk, Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, advised that WALTER TERRY RIFE operates the restaurant in the Hotel. HARPER advised that WALTER TERRY RIFE had been working every day at the restaurant since 2-68 when he took over the operation of the restaurant. He advised that RIFE's wife had given birth to a child in 2-68 and that during the period of time that RIFE's wife was in the hospital, he had operated the restaurant practically without any help and had worked from 15 to 18 hours a day. HARPER advised that RIFE has not been gone from Quincy, Ill., for any one-day period since taking over the operation of the restaurant.

A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was exhibited to HARPER. HARPER advised that this individual was unknown to him and stated he had never seen RAY to his recollection during his life.

HARPER advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN resides at the Virginia Hotel; however, he had never heard her mention JAMES EARL RAY and did not know that this was the brother of MELBA MARIE RYAN until that date. HARPER advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN had resided at the Virginia Hotel since 12-67 and he is certain that RAY has not visited the Virginia Hotel during that period of time.

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On 4-19-68, attempts were made to interview MELBA MARIE RYAN; however, she [REDACTED] and it was impossible to conduct an interview on that date. She advised that she would be available for an interview on 4-20-68 and that she was willing to consent to an interview with the FBI. She did stated during a short period of time an interview was attempted to be conducted that she had no idea as to the whereabouts of her brother JAMES EARL RAY.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date MAY 1, 1968

On April 19, 1968, WALTER TERRY RIFE, home address 214 Lind Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed at his place of business, Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois. Before the interview, RIFE was advised of his rights by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and a Waiver of Rights Form was read to RIFE. RIFE advised he would not sign the Waiver of Rights Form but that he was willing to discuss anything with FBI Agents.

RIFE furnished the following information:

RIFE advised that he last saw JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306 443 A, in 1957 when WALTER TERRY RIFE was released from the United States Prison at Leavenworth, Kansas.

RIFE advised that he had been arrested in 1955 with JAMES EARL RAY at Hannibal, Missouri, and both had been charged with the possession of stolen money orders from a Post Office. He advised that these had been taken from a Post Office at Kellerville, Illinois, in a burglary and that he and JAMES EARL RAY had then traveled throughout the United States cashing these postal money orders. He advised that they had traveled to New Orleans, Florida, Kansas City and California, cashing the stolen money orders before being arrested at Hannibal, Missouri.

Both were then sentenced to the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas.

RIFE advised that he had seen JAMES EARL RAY almost on a daily basis at the penitentiary at Leavenworth from 1955 until RIFE was released from the penitentiary in 1957. RIFE later learned that RAY was not released from the penitentiary at Leavenworth until 1958. He stated that he had not been in contact with RAY since that date and had no knowledge of RAY's activities other than he had heard that RAY was sentenced to the Missouri State Penitentiary in the early 1960's. He had no idea as to the charge concerning RAY at that time; however, he thought it was some type of armed robbery.

On 4-19-68 at Quincy, Illinois File # SI 44-561

by SA THOMAS M. SCHOENHOFER
SA ELYON H. DAVIS /ras Date dictated 4-25-68

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money and he knew that during that time that RAY broke into houses and stole money or goods he could sell. RAY also pulled stick-ups with a gun and that RAY committed burglaries in which safes were involved. RIFE advised that he does not want to talk about any particular job that he might have been involved in with RAY. He stated that RAY would also roll drunks to obtain money and would obtain money any way that a thief could obtain money. He stated that RAY was a roamer and a loaner and did not seem to have any close friends.

RIFE felt that in the event that JAMES EARL RAY ever returns to the Quincy, Illinois, area, RAY will contact RIFE. RIFE stated, however, that he has no knowledge that RAY has returned to Quincy since 1955 and does not believe RAY has returned to Quincy or he would have known something concerning the return of RAY.

RIFE advised that he would not hide JAMES EARL RAY and would immediately notify the FBI of any information he receives concerning RAY's whereabouts.

RIFE advised that he personally knew nothing concerning the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in Memphis, Tennessee and that he most certainly himself was not in the Memphis area during the period of March 27, 1968 through April 4, 1968. He advised that this could be verified from all people connected with the Virginia Hotel as well as members of the Police Department of Quincy, Illinois. He stated that night policemen cruise by his restaurant at the Virginia Hotel practically every hour of each night and that the night detectives and also patrolman LARRY COLLINS could verify that he had not left the Quincy, Illinois, area.

RIFE advised that he knew that JAMES EARL RAY's uncle EARL RAY had moved to California from the Quincy, Illinois, area ten to fifteen years before and that he thought the uncle had died with a heart attack. He knew that somewhere he had understood that EARL RAY was dead.

RIFE advised that he could furnish no information concerning possible contacts of JAMES EARL RAY.

The Harboring Statute was explained to RIFE by SA ELYON H. DAVIS.

RIFE advised that he first met JAMES EARL RAY around 1942 when apparently RAY and his family moved to Quincy, Illinois, from some small town in Missouri. He stated that RAY had close connections in Quincy and that during the period of time that he had known RAY, RAY had resided with his Uncle, EARL RAY, in Quincy and at the time he and RAY were arrested in Hannibla, Missouri, RAY was living at the Victor Hotel on North Sixth Street in Quincy, Illinois. He advised that the Victor Hotel has been closed for many years and that he understands the operator of the Victor Hotel is now deceased.

RIFE advised that he had never heard RAY mention his father or talk very much concerning his relatives and RIFE advised that he did not know that MELBA RYAN, who resides at the Virginia Hotel was RAY's sister until learning on that date that RAY was charged with the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

RIFE advised that when he and RAY were apprehended in Hannibal, Missouri, they were accompanied by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He advised that he is certain that RAY had never met [REDACTED] until the date of their arrest in Hannibal and that he (RIFE) had picked up [REDACTED] in a tavern in Quincy and took her to Hannibal on a date. He advised that [REDACTED] is presently married to [REDACTED] in Quincy, Illinois.

RIFE stated that he remembered distinctly that [REDACTED] and RAY did not know each other until he introduced them on the date the three were arrested in Hannibal. He stated that [REDACTED] was not actually arrested but was released and that she had nothing to do with the passing of the stolen postal money orders.

RIFE advised that he had never visited in the RAY home in Quincy, Illinois, and had no idea as to the address of RAY's people or the number of relatives that RAY had in Quincy. He stated that he and RAY as a normal thing, did not actually run around together but would meet each other in taverns at which time they would talk and decide to do something together.

RIFE advised that during the period of time that he had known JAMES EARL RAY, RAY had been "a thief". He stated that RAY would do anything during that period of time to make

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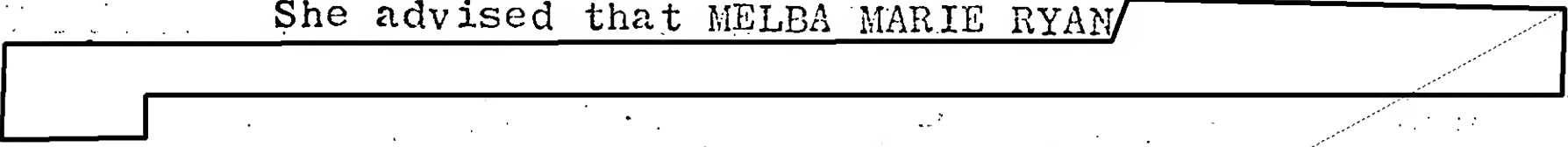
The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 23, 1968, MARY JAN RIFE, 214 Lind Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised she is certain her husband, WALTER TERRY RIFE, has no knowledge of the present activities or whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY.

She stated also that MELBA MARIE RYAN, sister of RAY, still resides at the Virginia Hotel and eats almost all of her meals at RIFE's restaurant in the hotel. She stated that MELBA MARIE RYAN has told her on several occasions during the last three or four days that she has no information or knowledge of the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY.

She advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN has been highly emotional during the past few days and she felt that this was due to numerous reporters attempting to interview MELBA MARIE RYAN.

She advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN/



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The following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 23, 1968, WALTER TERRY RIFE, 214 Lind Street, was reinterviewed at his place of business, the Virginia Hotel Restaurant, Quincy, Illinois.

RIFE advised that once when he was fingerprinted after his arrest on a possession of stolen postal money orders with JAMES EARL RAY in 1955, he was booked under the name of VERNON ELMO RIFE. He stated that VERNON ELMO RIFE has never been an associate of JAMES EARL RAY and has never been in jail with RAY and this is the reason records in Missouri would show RAY was arrested with VERNON ELMO RIFE instead of WALTER TERRY RIFE.

RIFE advised that when he and JAMES EARL RAY were passing the stolen money orders throughout the United States after their arrest in Hannibal, Missouri, they claimed they had purchased these money orders from a wino named WILLARD J. MC BRIDE. He advised that this information is not correct and they did not purchase the money orders from any WILLARD J. MC BRIDE. He advised that he has never known a WILLARD J. MC BRIDE and that he and RAY obtained the money orders in Adams County, Illinois. He said that the Post Office at Kellerville, Illinois, is located in Adams County, Illinois, and that he did not intend to admit to any burglary but that neither RAY nor RIFE obtained the money orders outside of Adams County.

RIFE advised that during the period of time that he and RAY were passing the money orders, they traveled extensively throughout the United States to towns in Florida, New Orleans, Louisiana, St. Louis, Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, across the United States to California and back to the Quincy, Illinois, Hannibal, Missouri, area, where they were arrested. He stated that there was no particular place that RAY seemed fond of during that trip more than anywhere else and that they traveled from town to town on a spur of the moment deal and no plan or scheme was involved in their travels.

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He advised that during these travels he and RAY did not contact anyone named COIN and did not contact anyone to his knowledge, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

He advised that they did contact a COHEN in Kansas City, Missouri, and sold COHEN some of the money orders. RIFE was not certain as to the description of COHEN but thought that he would now be an old man. RIFE personally did not know COHEN or anything concerning his whereabouts or activities. He stated that COHEN was a man that they contacted in a tavern and sold him some of the stolen money orders. He stated that they contact COHEN by just asking questions in taverns as to who would buy money orders.

RIFE advised that he knew that JAMES EARL RAY disliked Negroes immensely ; however, he had no idea as to the reason why. He advised that he had never known any incident involving RAY and Negroes.

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ELYON H. DAVIS at Quincy, Illinois.

WALTER TERRY RIFE, operator, Virginia Restaurant, Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois, was recontacted on April 30, 1968, May 3, 1968, May 10, 1968, and May 13, 1968, and on each date advised that he could furnish no additional information concerning JAMES EARL RAY. He also advised on those dates that definitely JAMES EARL RAY has not contacted MELBA MARIE RYAN at the Virginia Hotel.

SAMUEL EDWARD HARPER, desk clerk, Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois, was recontacted by SA ELYON H. DAVIS on April 25, 1968, April 30, 1968, May 3, 1968, and May 9, 1968, and on each date advised that he could furnish no additional information concerning JAMES EARL RAY. On each date, he advised that MELBA MARIE RYAN, RAY's sister, still resides at the Virginia Hotel and that the restaurant of the Virginia Hotel is operated by WALTER TERRY RIFE.

On May 3, 1968 and May 9, 1968, ART CONNORS whose wife owns the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois, was recontacted on each date and advised that he had no information concerning the whereabouts or activities of JAMES EARL RAY not previously furnished.

On May 9, 1968, ART CONNORS, Virginia Hotel, Quincy, Illinois, advised that to his knowledge, no telephone calls have been charged to the Virginia Hotel that were made by MELBA MARIE RYAN. He advised that he remembers his wife placing a call or else accepting a telephone call in April, 1967 from his son Sergeant ARTHUR A. CONNORS, JR. who is stationed in New Jersey and was coming home to visit his parents before being transferred to Vietnam. CONNORS advised that his son Sergeant ARTHUR A. CONNORS, JR. was presently at the CONNORS home, Rural Route 5, Quincy, Illinois.

On May 9, 1968, Sergeant ARTHUR A. CONNORS, JR. Rural Route 5, Quincy, Illinois, advised SA ELYON H. DAVIS that he placed a collect telephone call to the Virginia Hotel from Long Branch, New Jersey on April 9, 1968. He

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advised that this was of a personal nature to his mother concerning his transfer to Vietnam.

Sergeant CONNORS advised that the name JAMES EARL RAY is completely unfamiliar to him and that he could not recognize any photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as anyone he had ever seen.

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B. JOSEPH ELMER "BLACKIE" AUSTIN

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The following investigation was conducted by SA EDWARD A. CARPENTER, at the Menard Branch, Illinois State Penitentiary, on April 26, 1968:

A record was located for JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN who has FBI #821733 whose date of birth is April 15, 1898, and who originally was received at the Menard Branch, on December 21, 1925, and he remained at the penitentiary until July 22, 1949, when he was released and was returned to the penitentiary on December 22, 1950, where he remained until April 8, 1954, when he was released on parole and again returned to the penitentiary on February 8, 1955, where he remained until April 27, 1956, when he was again released on parole and then returned to the penitentiary on September 17, 1957, where he remained until May 7, 1959, when he was again released on parole until September 23, 1959, when he was returned until his ultimate discharge on February 23, 1965.

According to penitentiary records, AUSTIN when he was dismissed from Menard went to St. Leonard's House located at 2100 West Warren Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and he received a final parole on discharge on July 11, 1967, through the Parole Office located at 160 North LaSalle, Chicago, Illinois.

According to the records, AUSTIN at one time, was transferred to the state penitentiary at Joliet, from August 2, 1934, until August 15, 1936, when he was returned from Menard. According to the records, AUSTIN used the names JAMES FREELEY, SHARKEY AUSTIN and BLACKKEY.

AUSTIN was originally received on a 25-year sentence for murder and a 10 to life sentence for armed robbery from Morgan County, Illinois. According to the records, AUSTIN has a nephew by the name of RALPH whose full name is RALPH TANNEHILL, 1432 - 4th Street, Madison, Illinois, a niece, Mrs. JOE REESE, 316 North Hoosier, Brazil, Indiana; a brother, CHARLES, residing in Waverly, Illinois; a brother, BERT, residing in Springfield, Illinois.

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AUSTIN is described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	4/5/98
Height	5' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	129 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Dark
Hair	Gray
Occupation	Farmer
	Has cut scar on center of forehead

A review of his correspondence file reflects
correspondence with Mrs. DOROTHY SEYMOUR, at Franklin,
Illinois, a sister;

ROBERT REED, a case worker from St. Leonard
House, 2100 Warren Avenue, Chicago, Illinois;

Father DOUGLAS WOLFE,
St. Leonards House,

Attorney J. EDWARD JONES
1432 West Harrison Street,
Chicago, Illinois;

A. A. Farris Company, Inc.
122 West Lincoln Avenue
Goshen, Indiana

St. Anthony's Inn Inc.
29 South LaSalle Street,
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. GEARD LETTMAN
Warren Clinic
2449 West Washington Boulevard,
Chicago, Illinois

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Mr. and Mrs. MYRICK
Caseyville Nursing Home
Caseyville, Illinois;

A. B. ROBERTSON
2011 Road Street,
Madison, Illinois

Waukegan Rescue Mission
Waukegan, Illinois

Friend WILLIE MAE MORGAN
Waverly, Illinois;

MYRTLE COOK
Acme Hotel
St. Louis, Missouri

Cousin GERTRUDE WALLING
904 Lind Street,
Quincy, Illinois

No other information of value noted in file
for AUSTIN.

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On May 9, 1968, AUSTIN's brother, CHARLES, was located and interviewed at Waverly, Illinois and advised he was in receipt of a letter, dated May 7, 1968, from AUSTIN with a return address of 2023 Warren Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. CHARLES AUSTIN was not sure if his brother was employed or not.

CHARLES AUSTIN was interviewed re subject RAY and shown photographs of RAY but advised he was not acquainted with the subject nor had he ever heard his brother mention the subject.

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EHD:skr

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The following investigation was conducted by SA ELYON D. DAVIS at Quincy, Illinois, on May 10, 1968:

GERTRUDE WALLING, 1120 College Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised that she formerly resided at 904 Lind Street, Quincy, Illinois. She advised that when she lived on Lind Street she occasionally rented rooms in her home and sometime around 1956 she rented a room to JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN. She advised that she remembered AUSTIN'S date of birth to be 1898 inasmuch as her year of birth was the same and that was the only person she had ever lived in a house with who was born the same year as her. She stated that AUSTIN when he came to Quincy, Illinois, came to Quincy through some contact with a Catholic priest in either Quincy or Chicago. She advised that AUSTIN had been in the Illinois State Penitentiary and came to Quincy in an effort to obtain a job and that apparently this unknown Catholic priest had obtained AUSTIN a job in Quincy. However, AUSTIN lived at her home less than one month when he left and she heard shortly thereafter that he had been arrested and was returned to prison. She stated that she could not remember the name of the town in which he was arrested and had not seen AUSTIN since 1956. She stated as far as she knew AUSTIN did not have any relatives or associates in Quincy, Illinois, and that AUSTIN was not related to her. He simply lived in her home for a period of less than one month and that was as a border.

She advised that she did not know JAMES EARL RAY and had never known AUSTIN to speak concerning RAY under RAY'S true name or known aliases.

She stated that she is certain JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN was not a Quincy resident and that he knew nothing concerning Quincy at the time he moved to Quincy.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were exhibited to GERTRUDE WALLING and she advised that she had never seen this individual before.

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EHD:skr

2

On May 10, 1968, ELIZABETH ROTH, Credit Bureau of Quincy, Inc., 528 North Fifth Street, advised that her file contains very little information concerning JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN other than a newspaper clipping which showed that JOSEPH ELMER AUSTIN, age 59; had been arrested on August 4, 1957, in Robertson County, Tennessee, with JOHN GEWIN SCROGGINS, age 38, and a DORRIS CALVIN MEACHAM of Elkton, Kentucky. The three had been arrested for the alleged kidnapping of a Guthrie, Kentucky, motel clerk and had allegedly taken him across the state line into Robertson County, Tennessee, where they robbed him of \$139.00 and set him free. The trio was stopped for speeding near Ashland City, Tennessee, and the \$139.00 believed stolen from the Guthrie, Kentucky, motel clerk was found scattered along the highway near the scene of arrest.

AUSTIN was then committed to the Central State Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, after Government attorneys said they believed he might not be mentally capable of advising with council.

The article showed that AUSTIN came to Quincy, Illinois, in April, 1956, and previous to that he had been sent back to prison three times for violation of parole and had spent three months in a tuberculosis sanitarium in Jacksonville, Illinois.

SI 44-561

C. MILTON DEAN "BUCKY" BATCHELDER

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On April 25, 1968, investigation at Springfield, Illinois, revealed MILTON DEAN BATCHELDER, also known as Bucky, FBI #548 312 B, white male, dob April 25, 1932, at Quincy, Illinois, was the individual to whom a Hannibal, Missouri, policeman sold a car from RAY and forwarded the proceeds to. Checks at Menard State Prison, Menard, Illinois revealed BATCHELDER was transferred to Joliet Brancy, Illinois State Penitentiary on September 7, 1966.

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D. PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR.

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A review of the Springfield files regarding PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR. reflected him as subject of a 1963 Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement case, in which he was described as follows:

Name	PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR., Aka Paul Alvin Lail, Jr. Paul Lail, Jr. Paul Arthur Carter
FBI #	754 483 A
Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	American
DOB	6/30/30
POB	Marion, North Carolina
Height	6' 5"
Weight	170 pounds
Hair	Red
Blue	Eyes
Occupation	Sign painter electrician truck driver radio repair man
Social Security #	[REDACTED]
Teeth	No upper
Scars	Scar on left knee

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

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E. HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS

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On 5-1-68, SA's FRANK E. CORN, SR., and ROBERT C. HAINES, interviewed HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS, at 137 East Acton Street, Wood River, Illinois.

SANDERS stated that he was incarcerated in the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on 1-20-52, upon conviction of an armed robbery charge at St. Joseph, Missouri. He said he was released on parole on 9-1-64.

SANDERS advised that he never became acquainted with or had knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY during the time he was incarcerated in the Missouri State Penitentiary. He said that while he was in the penitentiary, he worked at several trades and that the last two jobs he had in the penitentiary had to do with the sewing machine mechanical section and that the last job he had was a halltender from 1963 to 1964.

SANDERS said that upon parole he went to Gadsden, Alabama, where he lived and worked for approximately 18 months; that he then went to Camden, South Carolina, where he was employed by the firm of E. I. DUPONT for 9 months. SANDERS said that he then came to Wood River, Illinois, where he has been working on construction at the Shell Oil Company Plant in Wood River. He said that he arrived in Wood River in 7-67 and has resided in Wood River since that time.

SANDERS concluded by stating that when national publicity was released concerning the identification of JAMES EARL RAY, he viewed photographs appearing on television and in the news media and determined that he had never known RAY while both were at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

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F. WILBUR CONNORS

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On 4/20/68 WILBUR CONNORS, aka MANNY CONNORS, 825 South Fifth Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed by ASAC DONALD T. SULLIVAN and SA ELYON H. DAVIS and furnished the following information:

On that date was the first he had learned of his wife, [REDACTED], had been arrested with WALTER RIFE and JAMES EARL RAY in Hannibal, Missouri, in 1955. He advised that he had never heard his wife mention JAMES EARL RAY and is quite certain that she did not know RAY or have much of any contact with him. He pointed out in 1955 his wife was only seventeen years of age and that she did not have a criminal record and for this reason he did not believe she had been involved with RAY and RIFE in any crime.

WILBUR CONNORS advised that his sister-in-law, LAURA CONNORS, owns the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois. CONNORS advised that he is in this hotel on almost a daily basis and can state that WALTER RIFE was certainly working each day at the restaurant and the Virginia Hotel from the period 3/27/68 through 4/4/68.

CONNORS advised that he personally does not know JAMES EARL RAY and does not have any information concerning RAY's activities or whereabouts.

On 4/20/68 LAURA CONNORS, owner, Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed by SA ELYON H. DAVIS and ASAC DONALD T. SULLIVAN and furnished the following information.

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Around 2/6/68 she had leased the restaurant in the Virginia Hotel to WALTER TERRY RIFE. She advised since that date the restaurant has been operated by RIFE and that RIFE has been working in the restaurant every day. She advised that RIFE's wife, JAN RIFE, gave birth to a baby in late 2/68 and for this reason WALTER RIFE had worked from approximately 7:00 each morning until 11:00 at night operating the restaurant. She stated that certainly WALTER RIFE was working during the period 3/27/68 until 4/4/68.

She advised that she does not know JAMES EARL RAY, FBI No. 306443A, and after viewing five different photographs of RAY advised that this is not an individual who she has ever known. She stated that MELBA MARIE RYAN does live at the Virginia Hotel and that she had learned on the previous night that MELBA MARIE RYAN was a sister to JAMES EARL RAY. She stated, however, in her conversations with MELBA MARIE RYAN, MELBA MARIE RYAN had denied any knowledge of the whereabouts of RAY and she does not believe that RAY has contacted the sister since his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

On 4/20/68 ARTHUR CONNORS advised that he is the husband of LAURA CONNORS, owner of the Virginia Hotel, 534 North Second Street, Quincy, Illinois. ARTHUR CONNORS advised that he can verify that WALTER RIFE was working at the restaurant in the Virginia Hotel during the period of 3/27/68 through 4/4/68.

ARTHUR CONNORS also viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306443A. CONNORS advised that this individual was completely unknown to him and he has never seen him at the Virginia Hotel.

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FOIA(b) (7) - (C)



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On 4/20/68 [REDACTED] presently married to WILBUR CONNORS and residing 825 South Fifth Street, Quincy, Illinois, was interviewed by ASAC DONALD T. SULLIVAN and SA DAVIS.

She advised that she had never met JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #306443A, until one night during 1955 when WALTER RIFE, an acquaintance of her, approached her in a tavern in Quincy, Illinois, and asked her if she wanted to go with RIFE to Hannibal, Missouri. While in the automobile, she was introduced to JAMES EARL RAY and after arrival in Hannibal, Missouri, WALTER RIFE and JAMES EARL RAY were arrested concerning some postal money orders that had been stolen. She advised that she had never seen RAY before that date and has never seen him since. She stated that she had no information concerning the whereabouts of RAY or any information concerning the background of RAY.

She advised that her husband did not know RAY and had never heard of her being arrested with RAY and RIFE in Hannibal, Missouri.

She advised that she is acquainted with MELBA MARIE RYAN since MELBA MARIE RYAN resides at the Virginia Hotel but that she did not know that this was a sister of JAMES EARL RAY.

She advised that she would furnish any information of value that she might learn to the FBI concerning RAY or the RAY and RYAN family; however, she had none to furnish at the present time.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On April 24, 1968, ART CONNORS, whose wife LAURA CONNORS, owns the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, Illinois, advised that he had received no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY. He advised that he intends to cooperate in every way with the FBI in this matter and will immediately advise the FBI of anything concerning RAY's whereabouts.

He advised that RAY's sister, MELBA MARIE RYAN, has stated numerous times she has no information as to RAY's whereabouts. He advised that [REDACTED], now married to CONNORS' brother, WILBUR CONNORS, known as MANNY CONNORS, has told him that she knew nothing concerning RAY other than she was arrested with RAY and WALTER RIFE at Hannibal, Missouri, in 1955. Inasmuch as she was not involved and knew nothing concerning the passing of the stolen money orders, she was released on the same day of the arrest and no charges pressed against her.

CONNORS advised he is certain in his own mind that neither MELBA MARIE RYAN or WALTER TERRY RIFE has any information concerning the whereabouts of RAY.

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H. JOSEPH ADAMS

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The following investigation was conducted at the Menard Branch, Illinois State Penitentiary, on April 26, 1968:

On April 26, 1968, MAX FRYE, Warden, Menard Branch, Illinois State Penitentiary, advised that one of the inmates by the name of JOSEPH ADAMS, who works in the Office rs Mess at the Penitentiary, indicated to him recently that he was acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY having been with him at the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Warden FRYE stated that he did not question him concerning his contacts or knowledge of RAY but thought it might be of value to interview him.

On April 26, 1968, JOSEPH ADAMS, also known as Shorty, who has Menard #11745 was interviewed at the penitentiary and advised after viewing a photograph of RAY that he was acquainted with RAY when RAY was at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

ADAMS advised that he left the penitentiary for Menard last October, 1967, and that when he got there, RAY was already there.

ADAMS advised that his only knowledge of RAY was that RAY brought food over to the hospital where ADAMS was working and he assumed that RAY apparently worked in the prison kitchen.

ADAMS advised that he never talked directly to RAY at any time nor did he ever observe him with any other inmates. He described RAY as a very quiet individual and this is all the information he had concerning him.

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I. JOHN EUGENE GAWRON

SI 44-561

JWD:jah

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The following investigation was conducted at Menard, Illinois, on May 1, 1968, by SA JEROLD W. DONALDSON:

Warden MAX FRYE, Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard Branch, made available the prison records of JOHN EUGENE GAWRON, Illinois State Police #25261 (Joliet Penitentiary #489F). The file reflected the following background data:

NAME	JOHN EUGENE GAWRON
ALIASES	JOHN GAWRON JACK DAWSON JOHN GAWROS JACK MORLEY
RACE	White
SEX	Male
DATE OF BIRTH	July 12, 1898
PLACE OF BIRTH	Chicago, Illinois
HEIGHT	5'3"
WEIGHT	170 pounds
HAIR	Gray
EYES	Hazel
RELIGION	Catholic
EDUCATION	8th Grade, Chicago
NATIONALITY	Polish
MILITARY SERVICE	U. S. Marine Corps from May 6, 1916, to May 24, 1917. Marine Corps Serial No. 73666
PARENTS	Deceased, father died 1931, mother died 1931.
FBI NUMBER	134634
OCCUPATION	Cook and baker
CHARACTERISTICS	Smokes, chews tobacco, and drinks heavily

The file revealed that GAWRON was originally received at Joliet, Illinois, Penitentiary on November 2, 1934, under sentence of one to life for burglary. GAWRON received Menard Branch, Illinois State Penitentiary on July 25, 1956, from Adams County, Illinois, as a parole violator. GAWRON paroled from Menard on March 21, 1959, to Veterans Administration Hospital,

Wood, Wisconsin. He remained there three days and left without permission. GAWRON carried at that time in an absconder status until November 16, 1961, when he was returned to Menard Penitentiary. He was paroled on April 11, 1963, to the Soldiers and Sailors Home, Quincy, Illinois, but was never received at this home. GAWRON's address as of April, 1963, was shown as 1807 South 11th, St. Louis, Missouri.

The following individuals were listed as correspondents in GAWRON's file:

Miss MARY MONICHOLES, cousin, 1010 Park Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri

Miss CAROL MAHER, later shown as Mrs. CAROL PEPPER, a friend, 1913 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri, and ALBERT PEPPER, 1713 Lafayette Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

Questionnaires were filled out by the following individuals:

Date of questionnaire not shown on file. LUCILLE MARY RYAN (friend), who lists an address of 701 1/2 Washington (date not shown) and 527 York, Quincy, Illinois, in July, 1967.

CAROL ANN MAHER (second cousin), later shown as CAROL ANN PEPPER, 1913 Henry, St. Louis, Missouri

ALBERT BENNY PEPPER (friend), 1015 Allen, St. Louis, Missouri

JOHN LARRY RAY (friend), 1915 Hickory, St. Louis, Missouri

Also included in the file were 3 re-classification reports dated June 10, 1940; December 2, 1961; and September 2, 1956, which would be of pertinent background value.

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FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

J. 

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On May 9, 1968, BERNICE DUCKAN and ELIZABETH ZIMMERMAN, owners of the Jewel Lounge, 106 (rear) - 5th Street, Peoria, Illinois, advised that they have owned that tavern for approximately one year. Both are from the State of California and they advised that the Jewel Lounge was formerly known as the m & n Tavern and that the tavern is still commonly referred to as the "Old M & N". They advised that the former tavern owner (1959) called [redacted] was unknown to them and they could furnish no information concerning her identity or whereabouts.

On May 10, 1968, LARRY ENNIGER, 1800 North Knoxville Peoria, Illinois, former tavern operator, advised that [redacted] was widely known in the Peoria, Illinois area inasmuch as during the 1950s she had tended bar at two or three different establishments.

On May 13, 1968, BETTY MEYERS, owner of the Beer Barrel Tavern, suggested [redacted] whose name she did not know may be employed at the Piere Marquette Hotel in Peoria, Illinois.

On the same date, PHIL BUSSMAN, Sales Representative, Piere Marquette Hotel, identified [redacted] as [redacted] [redacted] also known as [redacted], 408 Bryan Street, Peoria, Illinois and 213 Franklin Street, Bartonville, Illinois. He advised she has been employed as waitress in the lounge of the hotel for the past 6 years.

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 16, 1968

[redacted] also known as [redacted] and [redacted] [redacted] 213 Franklin Street, Bartonville, Illinois, was interviewed at her residence regarding her knowledge or any prior association with JAMES EARL RAY, FBI # 405 942 G. She viewed photographs of RAY and advised that this individual is unknown to her and that she could furnish absolutely no information regarding this man.

She advised that she was the owner on record, and operated the M & N Tavern, 106 (rear) -5th Street, Peoria, Illinois, during 1958 and 1959. She said she purchased the tavern from MILLIE and MAC BURDIN who now operate the "Galley" a basement night club at the Hotel Jefferson, Peoria, Illinois. She said prior to 1958, she had operated bars at the Beer Barrel, 1034 Northeast Adams Street, Peoria, Illinois, and also the Pour House, 800 North Main Street, Peoria, Illinois. She advised she was born in Norfolk, Virginia, and came to Peoria, Illinois, at the age of 16. She advised that she married SAM ALLEN in early 1950 and she and ALLEN had had business interests in the above taverns between 1953 and 1959.

She stated she divorced ALLEN in 1958 and married [redacted] a brick layer by trade, in 1960. She advised she is the mother of two children, ages 7 and 8. She stated she has been steadily employed as a waitress at the Piere Marquette Hotel, Peoria, Illinois, for the past six years.

She was advised that it had been reported that she may have associated socially with RAY and that she had been termed "a girl friend of RAY" about 1959. She stated that due to her association with the general public for the past several years as a waitress, she had become widely known in the Peoria, Illinois area due to her natural red hair, however, she advised that in many instances she would not know or recall customers who may have remembered her by name. She advised she is positive that she has never known RAY socially and has never corresponded with him. She advised that she would immediately notify the FBI should any information con-

On 5/13/68 at Bartonville, Illinois File # SI 44-561

by SA ELIAS WILLIAMS, JR. & SA QUENTIN P. STINSON skt Date dictated 5/15/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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2

cerning this individual come to her attention.

The following physical description was obtained from observation and interview and comments made by Mrs. [redacted]

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

Name:

Aliases:

Address:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Height:

Weight:

Hair:

Complexion:

Marital Status:

Husband:

Occupation:

Previous addresses:

Telephone number:

Occupation:

[redacted]
213 Franklin Street
Bartonville, Illinois

Female

White

40

5'5"

130 lbs.

Red (shoulder length)

Fair, freckled

Married (1960)

[redacted]
Brick layer

408 Bryan Street

Peoria, Illinois

Unlisted

697-0122

Waitress

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K. JAMES LAOMA OWENS

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RLW:skr

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROY LEE WILKERSON, JR. at Springfield, Illinois:

On May 15, 1968, WILLIAM KAUFFMAN, Division of
Supervision of Paroles, 103 National Guard Armory Building,
Springfield, Illinois, advised that his office has a file
concerning JAMES LAOMA OWENS and OWENS has been incarcerated
at the State Prison in Menard, Illinois, and the Missouri
State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri. KAUFFMAN
advised that JAMES OWENS has a prison registry number
for the State Prison of Menard, Illinois, being 20208.
OWENS' registry number for Missouri State Penitentiary
at Jefferson City, Missouri, is 69846. KAUFFMAN advised
that the only description that he has in his file is as
follows:

NAME:	JAMES LAOMA OWENS
RACE:	White
SEX:	Male
FBI NUMBER:	1-397-707
AGE:	27 on March 12, 1947
HEIGHT:	5'2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
WEIGHT:	129
HAIR:	Charcoal medium
EYES:	Dark Black
COMPLEXION:	Fair
OCCUPATION:	Clerk
CHARACTERISTICS:	Top of head bald.

OWENS was incarcerated at the Illinois State
Penitentiary, Menard Branch, Menard, Illinois, having
number 20208, received from St. Clair County, Illinois,
March 12, 1947, on the crime of robbery.

KAUFFMAN advised that the most current address
that his files reveal is an address of 3904 Folsom Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri, and this address was current as of
August 15, 1965, as a communication sent to OWENS on this
date was not returned. KAUFFMAN stated that on August 15,
1965, OWENS was issued a Certificate of Restoration of the
Rights of Citizenship. KAUFFMAN stated that JAMES OWENS
was discharged on June 27, 1965, at the expiration of his
sentence from the State Prison, Menard Branch, SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

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RLW:skr

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Illinois. KAUFFMAN advised that he has not had any further communication or correspondence with OWENS since August 15, 1965.

KAUFFMAN stated that any additional information needed concerning OWENS could be obtained from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, or the State Penitentiary of Menard, Illinois, and this information at the penitentiaries would be more current than the information that he has, especially information concerning description and background information.

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L. ANDREW WILSON "BLACKIE" DE CORE

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Menard Prison records reflect on May 17, 1968, ANDREW WILSON DE CORE, also known as De Cora and Blackie De Core, Menard #23415 received Menard Prison, June 15, 1953, on a transfer from Joliet, Illinois prison to serve a sentence of 1 to 20 years for robbery.

DE CORE was paroled June 15, 1959 to Rev. JAMES WINENEGAR, St. Louis Rescue Mission, St. Louis, Missouri, and was returned as a parole violator to Menard, July 19, 1960. He was paroled January 15, 1965 to Baptist Rescue Mission, Collinsville, Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois. He was returned to Menard as parole violator, May 28, 1965. He was discharged upon expiration of sentence, December 20, 1966. Upon discharge, he expressed intention of going to his sister's residence, Mrs. YALANDA DI CASOLA and her husband, VINCENT, 37555 Glenmore Drive, Freemont, California. Other friends and relatives contained in prison records are as follows:

Brother

ANTHONY DE CORE
713 South Claremont,
Chicago, Illinois or
1938 North 70th
Melrose Park, Illinois ;

Sister

Mrs. MARTHA BUTTITTO,
husband - BENNIE
9241 North Maple Court,
Morton Grove, Illinois;

Sister

NANCY COSENTINO
502 East Memorial
Bensonville, Illinois;

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Niece

Mrs. GEORGE ROGERS
2020 North Le Clare
Chicago, Illinois;

Cousin

PAT COLLESE
1641 North Latrobe,
Chicago, Illinois

Fiance

Miss HELEN HARE
3020 West Madison,
Chicago, Illinois;

Brothers

HARRY DE CORE and NICK DE CORE
addresses unknown

Friend

Miss MARY SAWYER
City Hospital Number 1
1515 Lafayette Street
St. Louis, Missouri.

SI 44-561

MWO:mpb

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
EDWARD A. CARPENTER:

At East St. Louis, Illinois

On May 22, 1968, Reverend DAVID BLISS, Pastor of the Baptist Rescue Mission, located in East St. Louis, Illinois, was contacted and advised that ANDREW WILSON DE CORE is unknown to him, and according to his records, he could not identify him in the East St. Louis, Illinois area and could not identify him as having given any service at the Rescue Mission.

Reverend BLISS advised that in the event that DE CORE should contact the mission, that he would make this fact known to the FBI.

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V. INVESTIGATION AT ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY
PONTIAC BRANCH

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A. RECORDS RE JAMES EARL RAY

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STOW E. SYMON, Supervising Sociologist, Illinois State Penitentiary, Pontiac, Illinois on April 25, 1968, advised his file contains little information concerning RAY who was a model prisoner while incarcerated Pontiac, July 7, 1952 until discharged March 12, 1954. He stated RAY was confined on a charge of robbery under Criminal Court, Cook County, Illinois case 52-1155 which sets forth in statement of facts subject at time of arrest, in Chicago, Illinois was wounded in both arms by police bullets. No information was located at Pontiac describing wounds or location of scars. Subject RAY at Pontiac assigned Honor Farm, August 12, 1952 until discharge. This is dormitory type housing rather than cell type. Subject was assigned to the kitchen as a cook and also on officers quarters detail.

The following inmates were identified and are set forth with their last known addresses furnished the prison at their time of release:

LEE MILLER
Pontiac Number 19200
6538 North Talman Street and
3542 SouthPort
Chicago, Illinois;

EDWARD PAUL RIVERA,
Pontiac Number 19294
515 West 63rd Street,
Chicago, Illinois;

GUS MARZAHN
Pontiac Number 19095
1620 West Nelson Street,
Chicago, Illinois;

CHARLES REED
Pontiac Number 18492
2286 Street
Madison, Illinois

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FRED M. PETRAKIS
Pontiac Number 18516
Route 1
Peoria, Illinois
518 Sanford Street,
Peoria, Illinois;

KENNETH D. FOSDYCK,
Pontiac Number 19218
Route 1
Bushnell, Illinois;

DWIGHT ROWE
Pontiac Number 19086
432 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Vine,
Kewanee, Illinois.

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B. INTERVIEWS WITH POSSIBLE INMATES
OF JAMES EARL RAY

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On 4/23/67, FRED PETRAKIS, 2904 North Avalon Place, Peoria, Illinois, a former inmate at Pontiac Penitentiary, was shown a 1955 photograph of JAMES EARL RAY without effecting an identification.

PETRAKIS advised that for about one and one-half months in late 1953, he served as a barber at the Pontiac Honor Farm in the penitentiary, however, he does not recall RAY. Prior to this, he cut inmates' hair at the main prison and served thirty-three months at Pontiac from 1950 to early 1953 before being paroled. PETRAKIS advised that he took inmate NORMAN DEAN's place as a barber and that DEAN may recall RAY.

On 5/1/68, NORMAN DEAN, barber, 927 Court Street, Pekin, Illinois, a former inmate at Pontiac Penitentiary, was shown a 1955 photograph of JAMES EARL RAY without effecting an identification. DEAN advised that he was discharged from Pontiac during the winter of 1952 and never cut hair on the Honor Farm. He possessed no information regarding RAY and was not aware that RAY was confined at Pontiac during the time of his incarceration.

On 4/29/68, CHARLES E. REED, was interviewed by SA LARRY W. GREEN concerning his knowledge of the present location of JAMES EARL RAY.

It is noted that the referenced teletype contains the address of REED, as 228 - 6th Street, Madison, Illinois. This address should be corrected to show REED's address as 2023 - 6th Street, Madison, Illinois.

REED stated that he was at the Pontiac State Farm, Pontiac, Illinois, in 1952. He stated that he entered Menard State Penitentiary at Chester, Illinois, in late 1949 and was subsequently transported to Pontiac Prison, Pontiac, Illinois, in late 1950. He stated he remained there on a farm until he was released August 29, 1952. REED stated at the time he was on the prison farm, there were about 150 persons working there. He stated that his job was to deliver the mail to each dormitory daily and that he was familiar generally with every person located on the farm at that time.

When questioned about the subject, REED stated that he does not recall the name nor does he remember associating with a person named JAMES EARL RAY. He stated that he was familiar with the name since it had been in the news frequently in recent days, but it had never come to his attention until now that RAY may have been at Pontiac State Farm while he was there. He further stated that he does not recall any particular person who may have been friends with the subject. It is noted from the referenced teletype that subject entered the farm at Pontiac August 12, 1952. REED recalls that he was dismissed from Pontiac, August 29, 1952. He stated that he was 19 years old at the time he was on the farm. He further

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related that he has not kept in contact with anyone he met while at the farm and knows nothing of the whereabouts of any of the inmates who were incarcerated at the farm while he was there.

REED is described as:

Age	Approximately 32
Height	5' 6"
Weight	140
Hair	Blonde, crew cut
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Ruddish
	Limps due to a crippled right leg
Marital	
status	Single, lives with his mother at the above noted address
Employer	Sanitation worker riding on sanitation trucks in the Madison-Granite City, Illinois area

REED has 5 brothers living in the Madison-Granite City area and 1 sister. It is noted from a criminal check at the Madison city PD that CHARLES E. REED has had some credit problems as well as being arrested for speeding and disorderly conduct since his release from Pontiac. (also from Granite City PD records)

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EHD:ras

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ELYON H. DAVIS:

On May 2, 1968, Deputy Sheriff, JOHN BLIVEN, Mc Donough County, Macomb, Illinois, advised that KENNETH D. FOSDYCK no longer resides in Bushnell, Illinois, but resides in Macomb, Illinois. He stated that FOSDYCK has a criminal record and is holder of FBI #442 181 A. He advised that FOSDYCK is presently employed by Burell Florists in Macomb, Illinois, and resides at 321 College Street, Macomb, Illinois. He advised that the record of FOSDYCK shows he was first arrested on October 14, 1948, for tampering with a motor vehicle and has later arrests for robbery, petty larceny, auto larceny, probation violation; however, Deputy BLIVEN advised that the last known arrest for FOSDYCK was on December 3, 1954 when he was returned to the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, Illinois, for parole violation.

He furnished the following physical description of
FOSDYCK:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	November 12, 1928
Height	5'10"
Weight	155 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Build	Slender
Education	8th Grade

On May 2, 1968, ELMER BURELL, Owner, Burell's Florists, Macomb, Illinois, advised that KENNETH D. FOSDYCK is employed by him and has been for a number of years. He stated that FOSDYCK resides at the Florist at 321 College Street, Macomb, Illinois, and that during the past several years FOSDYCK has been working regularly. He advised that FOSDYCK was working during the period of March 27, 1968, through April 4, 1968.

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EHD:ras

2

A number of photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were exhibited to ELMER BURELL. He advised that he has never seen anyone with FOSDYCK remotely resembling RAY. He also advised that he had never heard FOSDYCK mention RAY and felt certain that this individual had not been in Macomb in the recent past.

On May 2, 1968, KENNETH D. FOSDYCK was interviewed at 321 College Street, Macomb, Illinois. A number of photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were exhibited to FOSDYCK. FOSDYCK furnished the following information:

The photographs of JAMES EARL RAY are vaguely familiar to him as someone he has seen in the past.

FOSDYCK advised that he (FOSDYCK) was assigned to the Illinois State Penitentiary Honor Farm at Pontiac, Illinois, from September 15, 1952 until February 5, 1954. He advised that there was not a large number of individuals residing at this Honor Farm and it is quiet possible that he knew JAMES EARL RAY vaguely during this period of time. FOSDYCK advised that he certainly has not seen RAY since February, 1954, and has had no information concerning RAY's whereabouts.

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On 5/7/68 Chief of Police DEAN WATSON, Kewanee, advised that he knew of a DWIGHT ROWE having formerly lived in Kewanee, but advised that he had not seen him in years. He further advised that both of ROWE's parents were deceased, but that he believed ROSE V. JACABSON, 111 Hollis Street, Kewanee, was related in some way to ROWE.

On 5/7/68 Mrs. ROSE V. JACABSON, 111 Hollis, Kewanee, advised that DWIGHT ROWE was her first husband's brother. She further advised that ROWE quite often visits her children, but has not done so since the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. She has never heard him mention JAMES EARL RAY. Mrs. JACABSON advised that ROWE presently resides at 905 Third Street, Green Rock, Illinois.

On 5/7/68 attempts were made to contact ROWE, 905 Third Street, Green Rock, Illinois, but were unsuccessful.

On 5/8/68 DWIGHT PIERSON ROWE, 905 Third Street, Green Rock, Illinois, advised that he had served time at Pontiac, Illinois, but stated he did not remember JAMES EARL RAY. He stated that to the best of his knowledge the first he had ever heard of RAY was when his picture appeared in the newspapers in regard to KING. ROWE advised that he met so many other men while in Pontiac using so many different names that he could have met RAY and not realized it.

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VI. PRIOR THREATS AGAINST MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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DAVID V. LANSDEN, Attorney, Cairo, Illinois, advised on April 27, 1968, that he has had BENNY K. PINKSTON, FBI #314 7431 as a client on 2 or 3 occasions. LANSDEN states that PINKSTON is a heartless individual who professes to be a separationist and usually acquires small amounts of money from businessmen in the white community by soliciting donations in \$1 and \$2 amounts to promote his separation of the races program.

LANSDEN stated that PINKSTON usually carries a quantity of JOHN BIRCH literature and distributes same and generally operates in the Sikeston, Missouri, or Forrest City, Arkansas area.

LANSDEN was unable to recall any conversation wherein PINKSTON threatened the life of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. nor does he recall PINKSTON ever consulting him as to what might happen if he killed KING. LANSDEN states to the best of his knowledge, PINKSTON is probably in Forrest City, Arkansas where he has a mother and other relatives. LANSDEN stated to the best of his recollection, he last saw PINKSTON 3 or 4 years ago.

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VII. "INTEROFFICE" LOOKALIKES AND POSSIBLE SUSPECTS

SI 44-561

A. VINCENT DE PALMA

SI 44-561

On April 6, 1968, RONALD LORENZEN, Managing Editor, Times Democrat, Davenport, Iowa, advised he received a telephone call from EDWARD BUMGARDNER of 917 - 6th Avenue, Erie, Illinois on April 5, 1968. BUMGARDNER advised him that the photograph displayed on television of the assassination suspect appears to be that of one VINCENT DE PALMA. BUMGARDNER also advised that he is a former Minuteman and the assassination may have been committed by a member of the Minutemen.

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B. CARL RICE

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JUDITH LOTT, 1103 West North Crest, Peoria, Illinois, telephonically advised on April 5, 1968, she viewed a composite drawing of suspect in slaying of captioned individual on Channel 25 WEEK television, Peoria, Illinois, which individual resembles CARL RICE, Minneapolis, Minnesota. LOTT was described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5' 11"
Age	32
Hair	Blonde
Eyes	Blue
Weight	155 pounds

LOTT continued by saying RICE was previously involved in narcotics and racial matters. He attended Blake School, Minneapolis, resided with father, Doctor CARL RICE, suburb of Edina, Minneapolis, approximately 10 years ago. HARLEN BARRD, WEEK TV, Peoria, Illinois, advised the composite drawing of suspected slayer of captioned individual was shown on television April 5, 1968, which drawing was from UPI Wire Photo Service.

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C. WILLIAM RAY KING

SI 44-561

On April 7, 1968, Detective Sergeants JOHN COLEMAN and ROY WEST, Rock Island Police Department, advised an anonymous telephone call was received at the Police Department that a white male wearing gold colored clothing was at the Ft. Armstrong Hotel in Rock Island Illinois, either had a gun or guns or made statements that he had killed someone or that he had been in Memphis, Tennessee, when MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was killed. The voice was very muffled and the exact comments could not be distinguished.

Both proceeded to the Hotel where they immediately located BILLY RAY KING whom they checked for a gun. In subsequent conversation, they determined that KING came from Louisiana and spoke very bitterly of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated he got what he deserved and when asked if he had killed him, this person responded that even if he had he wouldn't tell them. They decided to take him to the Police Department for further investigation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

BILLY RAY KING was interviewed at the Rock Island, Illinois, Police Department, by ROBERT A. WICKWIRE and CHARLES E. SMITH who identified themselves as Special Agents of the FBI. KING was warned of his rights and he waived them as shown on an executed warning and waiver form.

BILLY RAY KING advised he has resided for ten years at 102 Arlington Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana. He has been employed as a deck hand on different boats in the Mississippi River since he was 18 years of age. He stated for the last three months he has been employed as a deck hand on a towboat for the K.G.W. Towing Company out of Greenville, Mississippi.

He added that he had been injured on his boat approximately twenty days ago and had been treated at the Greenville, Mississippi, General Hospital, but had been recuperating at his home in Lake Providence, Louisiana. He had recovered and arranged to catch his boat, which is the George Weathers, at Quincy, Illinois. His Personnel Director, JERRY WILSON, with the K.G.W. Towing Company in Greenville, Mississippi, had given him an airplane ticket from Greenville, Mississippi, to St. Louis, Missouri, to Quincy, Illinois, for April 5, 1968; however, he determined that all planes were full and was instructed to take a bus to Memphis, Tennessee, to catch a plane to St. Louis. He left his home by Trailway Bus around noon on April 4, 1968 and proceeded to Memphis, Tennessee, which is about 175 miles. He arrived in Memphis sometime in the afternoon, probably around 4:00 p.m. While at the Trailway Bus Depot, the riots broke out due to the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He advised that the bus depot was closed. There was no busses allowed to leave or enter and the people in the bus depot were forced to remain in the depot all night long. He advised that the depot was only two or three blocks from the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, where KING was shot. He advised that he knows where this motel is located as he had stayed there on previous occasions. He added that it was general knowledge in all the papers that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING was in Memphis and staying at the Lorraine Motel.

On 4-7-68 at Rock Island Illinois File # SI 44-561
by SA CHARLES E. SMITH
SA ROBERT A. WICKWIRE /ras Date dictated 4-9-68

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KING stated that he did not shoot MARTIN LUTHER KING but hastily added even if he had done so, he would not tell. He also stated that MARTIN LUTHER KING got just what he deserved and that the people in the North are getting just what they deserved on this racial problem as they caused the whole thing. When asked if he was a member of the KKK, KING stated that he was not a member but also added even if he was, he would not tell.

KING then stated during the early hours before daybreak, the busses started to move and he was able to take a taxi to the airport. He recalled that the fare was somewhere around \$4.65. When he arrived at the airport, he determined that there was only one plane that he could catch to Quincy, Illinois; however, this plane was full and he was placed on stand by. When the plane left and he could not get on, he then made a long distance telephone call to his boss JERRY WILSON who then told him to catch a bus to St. Louis and a bus to Quincy where he could catch the boat. He advised that he took a cab back to the bus depot where he boarded a Trailway Bus for St. Louis, Missouri. He advised this was early in the morning and arrived in St. Louis sometime around noon. He then caught a bus from St. Louis to Quincy; however, this bus made many different stops and he arrived too late in Quincy to catch the boat. He then took another bus to Rock Island, Illinois, where he now waiting for the boat which is due to arrive at 12:00 midnight.

KING stated that he owns a 1967 bright blue Mustang which is at his home at Lake Providence, Louisiana. He explained that the papers for this car are in the name of his friend TRAVIS SHEFFIELD, who lives approximately three blocks away on Foster Street. He stated he bought this car from SHEFFIELD and is making the payments but he has not had the papers changed over to his name. The car is at his home. KING also admitted that he owned a .38 pistol and a shotgun which are both at his home.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

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Name	BILLY RAY KING
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of Birth	April 23, 1925
Place of Birth	St. Joseph, Louisiana
Height	6'1"
Weight	185 pounds
Hair	Dark Brown, Curly
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium to ruddy
Address	102 Arlington Lake Providence, Louisiana
Occupation	Deck Hand, Towboat
Education	Seventh Grade
Marital Status	Single
Employment	K.G.W. Towing Company Greenville, Mississippi
Mother	GERTRUDE FRITH
Arrests	Admits juvenile arrest before the age of 18 for assaulting a Negro police officer in Lake Providence, Louisiana, explaining he beat this officer with a pipe, served nine months in a reform school at Monroe, Louisiana; Admits arrest at the age of 18 for carrying a pistol at Lake Providence, Louisiana, fined \$200.00 and \$37.00 costs and two years probation.

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D. UNKNOWN SUSPECT

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TOM MOSS, Chief of Police, Kankakee, Illinois, advised on April 5, 1968, he received an anonymous telephone call stating that a young white man staying at the West Lane Motel, Marion, Arkansas, had told a female employee of this motel that he was a Chicago police officer and that he was on his way to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. No further information was obtained from the anonymous telephone call.

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E. ALLEN RICHARD THAYER

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SI 44-561

The Springfield, Illinois Police Department, on April 8, 1968, advised ALLEN RICHARD THAYER was in custody and that he fits the general description of the individual who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. THAYER interviewed this date by Bureau Agents and he advised he could not account for his whereabouts on the pertinent dates as pertained to this case. He did advise, however, that he had been traveling across the United States for several weeks and that to the best of his knowledge he was in Denver, Colorado on the day that he heard that KING had been assassinated. THAYER advised at no time was in in Alabama or Tennessee this year. THAYER and companion were traveling in a 1959 gold Chevrolet.

THAYER is described as:

Height	5' 11"
Weight	155 pounds
Hair	Dark brown combed straight back
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Dark
Tattoo	Skull and crossbones left forearm
Previous arrests	Armed robbery Ontario Canda breaking and entering Hartford, Connecticut
DOB	10/23/33 Bristol, Connecticul

THAYER advised he knows nothing concerning the murder of KING nor has he any animosities toward KING. The Springfield Police Department filed charges against THAYER for defrauding an innkeeper.

SI 44-561

F. WILLIAM LOHMEYER

SI 44-561

On April 9, 1968, discreet investigation was conducted re WILLIAM LOHMEYER, Route 1, Strawn, Illinois. Information was developed LOHMEYER has been in the Strawn Illinois area, during the pertinent period re captioned matter.

LOHMEYER is described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	43
Height	5' 9"
Weight	165
Complexion	Ruddy
Hair	Brown
	Burr cut
Build	Medium - stocky
	round facial features
Occupation	Farmer
	Well respected in community

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G. J. J. TRARES

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JEROME J. TRARES, is described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	6/9/11
Height	6'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	230 pounds
Hair	Brown, graying bald, front and top
	4 Sheryl Drive, East St. Louis (Caseyville) Illinois
Employer	U.S. Gypsum salesman of building materials to wholesalers

Was in Memphis, April 2-4, 1968
to contact BILL WOOD at
lumber yard owned by
JOHNSONS, owners,
Holiday Inn Motel Chain
Driving 1968 Green Ford
4 door registered to
U.S. Gypsum

TRARES departed Memphis at 4:00 P.M. April 4, 1968,
arriving at residence 10:30 P.M. the same date after
stop at Cairo, Illinois.

Due to varience in physical and car description and
departure time, he does not appear identical to the
unknown subject.

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H. UNKNOWN SUSPECT

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On April 6, 1968, Mrs. DON SMITH, 705 West Maple, Champaign, Illinois, telephone 352-8584, telephonically advised that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, while watching the news on channel 15 in Champaign, Illinois, which immediately followed the MIKE DOUGLAS Show, she observed an individual in the crowd at the time MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was making a speech who did not applaud when the others did and looked as though he were a trouble maker.

She commented to her family concerning this person's reactions at that time. Subsequently, on April 6, 1968, she observed an artist drawing of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. on television, whose description is similar to that of an individual she observed in the news concerning MARTIN LUTHER KING. She said if she could see the news tape re-run of this, she is sure that she could identify the person to whom she is referring. She said she could be contacted at any time for any assistance she might be able to offer in this regard.

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I. ROBERT L. PLUNK

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ROBERT L. PLUNK, white male, age 34, born November 28, 1933, 5' 10" tall, 160 pounds, dark brown hair, receding, brown eyes, was a passenger on train number 6 IC Railroad to St. Louis, Missouri, at 5:00 A.M. this date, April 11, 1968. PLUNK briefly interviewed at Carbondale, Illinois, in view of information furnished by train personnel indicating PLUNK resembled artist's sketch of assassin of Dr. KING. PLUNK boarded IC passenger train #10 out of Jacksonville, Florida, at Corinth Mississippi with a round trip ticket to St. Louis. He was with his mother, EULIA PLUNK and resides at RR 2, Michie, Tennessee. PLUNK produced a letter from Veteran's Administration Hospital (Vah) St. Louis, Missouri, addressed to ROBERT L. PLUNK, RR 2, Michie, Tennessee, requesting him to report for physical re disability claim. PLUNK has TB was a Korean war veteran and had prior chest operation for TB at Murphreesboro, Tennessee, VAH. The letter directed PLUNK to report VAH A 139, out patient service, 915 North Grand, St. Louis, Missouri, April 11, 1968. PLUNK claims he does not work due to physical condition. PLUNK obviously in poor physical condition and had difficulty in moving and breathing.

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J. A. J. CONSOLINO

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On April 13, 1968, LEONARD KORMORNY, Manager, Lipsett Steel Products Company, 2520 East 23rd Street, Granite City, Illinois, advised that D. L. PETERSON is actually a D. L. Peterson Leasing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, and the automobiles for Lipsett Steel Products Company are leased through the D. L. Peterson Leasing Company.

He advised that the Lipsett Steel Products Company and the Luria Brothers and Company are the same company, operating out of 2520 East 23rd Street, Granite City, Illinois.

He said A. J. CONSTANTINO was an employee of the Lipsett Steel Products Company and that CONSTANTINO was residing at the Executive Apartments at 10038 Executive Drive North, St. Louis, Missouri, and would not be returning back to the company until April 15, 1968. He further advised that CONSTANTINO was the only employee of the company who took travelling assignments. He advised that he did not have any information concerning the 1968 Illinois license 411809 at the present time.

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K. UNKNOWN SUSPECT, AKA RICHARD GALT

On this date, April 12, 1968, KENNETH NEWBLE, 1001 North North Street, Peoria, Illinois, telephone number 632-1577, telephonically contacted the Peoria Resident Agency to advise that he had heard a radio broadcast from a Springfield station, Springfield, Illinois, not identified, while driving from Springfield to Peoria on this date. He recalled the commentator said the FBI was trying to locate an individual (FNU) GALT who was a seaman working out of Birmingham, Alabama. He advised that he is a former seaman, and he immediately recalled an individual known to him as RICHARD GALT (phonetic) whom he had sailed with on the SS Hudson of the Victory Transportation Line, New York City in December of 1961 to February of 1962, on a voyage to Spain and return to Port Arthur, Texas. He advised he and this individual known to him as RICHARD GALT were both members of the Seafarers International Union, Mobile, Alabama, whose national office is Brooklyn, New York.

He advised he and another seaman named TOBY DANCY of Mobile Alabama, and also a member of the said union, discussed racial matters and religious matters and politics at length, during the above voyage. He stated there were four Negroes in the crew of approximately 40 men and that he, NEWBLE and DANCY were the only two who associated with GALT (PHONETIC).

He described this individual as follows:

Age	Approximately 40-42 years of age at this time
Height	6'
Weight	165
Build	Thin
	Casual dresser, had excellent knowledge of hand guns and had excellent knowledge of European countries.

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NEWBIE advised that this individual had related that he had studied for the priesthood in Chicago, Ill., during his early years. He also advised that he was an experienced veteran seaman.

NEWBIE was contacted in person by SAs ELIAS WILLIAMS, Jr., and the writer, and he could add no additional information to the above.

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KENNETH NEWBLE, 1817 North North Street, Peoria, Illinois, viewed on April 18, 1968, a composite photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. He advised this individual is definitely not the crewman which he had reference to aboard the SS Hudson in December, 1961, to February, 1962. He advised there is distinct differences in the hair and facial features. NEWBLE is of the opinion he knew the crewman as RICHARD GALT and cannot offer explanations or suggestions as to which crewman he may have made reference to. He advised he recalls RICHARD SANTAMOUR, also a crewman, who is definitely not identical with the individual he had reference to. Based on NEWBLE's statements, after viewing a composite photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT and in the absence of any recorded crewman named GALT, no further investigation to locate this individual will be conducted.

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L. CLOYD DRAKE

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SI 44-561

Investigation by SA ROBERT BLUM RASCOE at Winchester, Illinois, revealed on 4-15-68 that both license plates, CE 6638, are on 1962 white Chevrolet Bel-Aire hardtop. Such is in accordance with records of DMV at Springfield, checked 4-14-68. Car duly registered to CLOYD DRAKE, Winchester, Illinois.

Mrs. DRAKE interviewed. She advised her husband recently passed away and that only she and her husband ever used the auto. She further advised that the car definitely has not been to Chicago and that the plates have not been removed or used on any other auto.

No further investigation being conducted in view of discrepancy in description of auto seen in Chicago and that of DRAKE's auto.

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M. JOSEPH CLAYTON MONTAGNE

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Information was received from the Jackson Division, on April 19, 1968, that Pascagoula, Mississippi Police Department stopped an individual driving a white Corvair bearing 1968 Illinois license DG 3109. The driver identified himself as JOSEPH CLAYTON MONTAGNE. MONTAGNE was accompanied by another white male whose identity was not determined. MONTAGNE indicated he was a musician and the other person indicated he was a seaman and they were both heading for New Orleans.

The officer who stopped the above individuals said that MONTAGNE resembled the photo of GALT and that after hearing a description of JAMES EARL RAY having a scar in the middle of his forehead he believed that MONTAGNE might be RAY as he recalled MONTAGNE having such a scar. No further description was available on MONTAGNE or the other person.

Auto Registration Section records, Springfield, Illinois, revealed 1968 Illinois license DG 3109 is registered to RAYMOND HILLBURN, 6039 North Ridge, Chicago, Illinois for a 1956 Dodge, Four door, VIN 32233139. Auto registration and drivers license checks re MONTAGNE negative.

Drivers License Section records re HILLBURN describe him as:

Name	RAYMOND MITCHEL HILLBURN
Address	1254 Leland,
Chicago, Illinois	
DOB	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div>
Height	5' 10"
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Drivers license #	H41673340187
	Suspended since 3/10/68

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FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

SI 44-561

N. PAUL STANLEY BOOTHBY

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SI 44-561

Re: PAUL STANLEY BOOTHBY
Suspect
Clinton, Illinois

On 4/19/68, Sheriff CLAUDE BARRETT, DeWitt County Sheriff's Office, Clinton, Illinois, advised FBI, Springfield, Illinois, that he had in custody one PAUL STANLEY BOOTHBY who had been arrested by the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office authorities at Clinton, Illinois. Subject had been riding a freight train from Springfield, Illinois to Clinton, Illinois, illegally and was arrested on local charges. BARRETT advised that subject resembled JAMES EARL RAY, also known as ERIC STARVO GALT.

Subject PAUL STANLEY BOOTHBY was fingerprinted by DeWitt County Sheriff's Office and was interviewed by FBI Agents in Clinton, Illinois, at DeWitt County Jail.

During interview, subject advised that he was in Memphis, Tennessee, on 4/8/68 through 4/12/68. He stated that he had left Chicago, Illinois on the 7th of April by freight train en route to Memphis to sell a pint of his blood for \$15.00. Subject advised that he had traveled throughout the United States by hopping freight trains and he had so done this for the past two years and had worked in many states doing odd jobs. Subject advised that he was in Chicago on 4/4/68 where he worked for Help Unlimited Corporation. Subject advised that while he was in Memphis, Tennessee, he resided at the Mission at Leaden and -2nd Street. Subject advised that he had no information re the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. nor did he know of anyone who might have participated in the killing.

SI. 44-531

The following description of the subject was obtained through observation and interview:

NAME:	PAUL STANLEY BOOTHBY
RACE:	WHITE
SEX:	MALE
HEIGHT:	5'10"
WEIGHT:	155 LBS.
DOB:	JULY 11, 1931
HAIR:	BROWN
EYES:	HAZEL
POB:	LIMA, OHIO
SCARS:	RIGHT KNEE LEFT HAND

FINGERPRINT CLASSIFICATION:

5 8 2 U 11
3 1 3r

PARENTS:

MR. AND MRS. DONALD BOOTHBY
1124 PITT STREET
LIMA, OHIO.

Subject's parents were contacted telephonically and they advised that the description of BOOTHBY was identical with that of their son and stated that he had left home about two years ago following some family problems.

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O. UNKNOWN SUSPECT, AKA J. CARNAHAN

SI 44-561

On April 29, 1968, Motor Vehicle Bureau, Springfield, Illinois, advised 1968 Illinois license B291617 was issued to JAMES J. MC GOVERN, 10023 West Devon, Rosemont, Illinois for 1966 Chevrolet Fleetside Panel Truck, VIN C2546F163402 Drivers license listed as M216 450 3056, Social Security number 361 072397.

1967 Illinois license B291617 issued to GEORGE WARD, Route 2, D Street, Murphysboro, Illinois, for a 1956 Ford pickup truck, VIN F10V6G25421, drivers license listed as W15662349765258. This license originally issued for 1954 Ford Pickup in which driver's license listed as W156623497652585. These are not Illinois drivers license.

Drivers license section, Springfield, advised drivers license number M216 4502 3056 issued February 14, 1968, to JAMES J. MC GOVERN. This chauffeurs license expires March 7, 1969 and described him as 5' 10", 190 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes, DOB 2/25/23; application reflects he is self employed and dba J. J. Mc Govern Motor Service, Rosemont, Illinois.

Drivers license number W632 3TWL13 5234 issued December 8, 1967 to GEORGE L. WARD, 103 Third Street, Murphysboro, Illinois, and license expires December 8, 1968 and describes him as 5' 11", 190 pounds, brown hair, hazel eyes, DOB August 17, 1935.

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P. JAMES E. BODKER

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Illinois Drivers License B326 4453 3030 issued June 2, 1967 to JAMES E. BODKER, 14341 South Avalon, Dalton, Illinois will expire January 30, 1971 and describes him as male, born January 30, 1933, 5' 10", 175 pounds, brown hair, green eyes, occupation - construction laborer. Records reflect license was suspended December 12, 1967 for an accident. It was again suspended in February, 1968 for three moving violations but is presently clear and valid.

SI 44-561

Q. WILLIAM A. MARSHALL

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On May 17, 1968, Mr. WOODROW THOMPSON, Parts Manager, employed 23 years with Rust International, Inc., International Harvester (I-H), Inc., Industrial Tractor, and Equipment Company, 1803 West Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois, advised that there has never been a WILLIAM A. MARSHALL or any employee by the name MARSHALL with the Rust International Company at Bloomington, Illinois. He related there is no other International Harvester Dealer in the Bloomington, Illinois area. THOMPSON further advised that the closest representative for the International Harvester Company is L. C. BARNETT, District Manager, International Harvester Company, 505 Rock Island Road, Peoria, Illinois. Records of credit bureau in Bloomington, Illinois; Police Department, Bloomington, Illinois; Mc Lean County Sheriff's Office, Bloomington, negative. A search of city directory and telephone directory failed reveal any listing for WILLIAM A. MARSHALL or similarity.

Also on May 17, 1968, Mr. L. C. BARNETT, District Manager, I-H, Four Zero Five Rock Island Road, Peoria, Illinois, advised that his office covers the Northern 60 counties for the State of Illinois which includes Bloomington, and his records reflect no one by the name WILLIAM A. MARSHALL as being an employee of his or as being a franchise dealer in his district. BARNETT further advised he knows of no recent employee transfers from his district to the State of California. BARNETT stated that any further checks re MARSHALL should be directed to I-H Home Offices, 401 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

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VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

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A. ROBERT HOOD STRADER

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On this date Mrs. ROBERT STRADER of Lexington, Illinois, telephone 369 365-3143, telephonically contacted the office concerning this matter. Mrs. STRADER, who sounded considerably upset emotionally, advised she expected her husband to return home from Detroit sometime late this afternoon and wanted to know whether or not we would assure that his identity would be protected in regard to any information provided to us concerning the MURKIN case. Mrs. STRADER also asked what kind of protection we could give to her husband who felt his life was in danger.

Mrs. STRADER was advised that any information furnished to this Bureau in confidence would certainly be protected but that we were in no position to physically guard her husband and if he felt his life was in danger this was a matter he should take up with local authorities, however, we were desirous of interviewing him concerning any valuable information he might have in regard to this case and would do so at his convenience upon his arrival. Mrs. STRADER advised she would have her husband contact the office upon his arrival at Lexington, Illinois. She was also furnished the name of the SRA at Bloomington and of the whereabouts of our office there.

Mrs. STRADER stated she and her husband were passing through Memphis at the time MARTIN LUTHER KING was slain. Her husband allegedly overheard a conversation among five individuals one of whom he claims resembles the published photograph of RAY, the subject, in this case, in which they talked about the killing. Subsequently, last Sunday night their car was broken into and on Monday he claims he was followed from Lexington to Detroit by a tan Chevrolet, the registration number of which he was unable to obtain. This car contained two individuals whom

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he did not recognize and at a rest stop these men took a shot at him but did not hit him because he "hit the ground". He now fears he is in grave danger for his personal safety because he has information about the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Mrs. STRADER was advised immediately upon her husband's return she should contact this office and we would set up a mutually agreeable time and place during which we could interview her husband concerning this matter.

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MARGRET CARMICHAEL STRADER, wife of ROBERT HOOD STRADER, was contacted at the residence of her father, E. P. CARMICHAEL, Route #1, Lexington, Illinois, on 4/30/68. Mrs. STRADER advised she and her husband were at the CARMICHAEL residence the weekend of 4/20-22/68. She advised that on the night of 4/21/68 or early morning of 4/22/68 her husband was awakened by the dogs barking outside the farm residence which is located up a farm lane one-half mile from the main rural road. She advised her husband and her father, E. P. CARMICHAEL, upon making a search of the outside area, found that the STRADER's 1967 Oldsmobile Delta "W8", cream colored with black vinyl top, had been broken into. Mrs. STRADER advised nothing was missing from the car and no one was located or seen in the area. Mrs. STRADER advised her husband left alone from the CARMICHAEL residence on the morning of 4/22/68 en route Detroit, Michigan.

Mrs. STRADER advised that in a short period of time, Mr. STRADER returned to the CARMICHAEL residence. Upon his return,

STRADER stated he had found a note in the recessed area of the speedometer of his car. (Mrs. STRADER pointed out that the speedometer has been broken; therefore, her husband was not normally attracted to the speedometer). She related this note was made up of words cut from newspapers and pasted on the back of a pocket calendar (unable to describe the calendar). Mrs. STRADER said the note read in substance, "If you go to the police or the FBI you will be killed." Mrs. STRADER advised her husband, after returning with the note, proceeded en route Detroit, Michigan, and after a short period of time had elapsed, he telephonically contacted her, stating he was at the Holiday Inn, Bloomington, Illinois. Mrs. STRADER stated her husband informed her that upon reaching the road one mile north of the CARMICHAEL residence, and Route 60, he saw a 1966 or 1967 Chevrolet, tan in color, no license information, with two men in the car, parked along the road. Mrs. STRADER stated her husband told her that this car followed him en route Bloomington. However, they did not turn into the Holiday Inn when he did. Mrs. STRADER advised her husband then told her he was proceeding on to Detroit, Michigan,

Mrs. STRADER advised upon discussing above with her parents, her mother, Mrs. E. P. CARMICHAEL, stated she had noticed a late model, tan car, making several trips on the main rural road near the CARMICHAEL residence on the early morning of 4/22/68.

Mrs. STRADER advised that on the night of 4/22/68 her husband telephonically contacted her, but he would not disclose his location as he stated he was afraid to mention his location over the phone. She related her husband told her that he stopped at a rest stop area after leaving Indianapolis, Indiana. Upon leaving his car and walking the direction of the men's restroom, he saw a tan automobile occupied by two men driving very slow. He stated at this time the rider in this automobile fired a shot at him. STRADER told his wife the shot just missed his ear and he, STRADER, hit the ground where he laid as if he had been hit. STRADER stated that the tan car disappeared and he has not seen it since.

Mrs. STRADER stated her husband believes this action was due to his being in the men's restroom at the Gulf Truck Stop, Lebanon, Tennessee, on 3/27/68, where he allegedly overheard five men planning to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Mrs. STRADER stated her husband told her that one of the men in the restroom was RAY, whom he recognized after RAY's photograph was published. She stated he further informed her that he would be able to recognize the other men he saw in the restroom. Mrs. STRADER advised she recalls being at the Gulf Truck Stop at Lebanon, Tennessee, on 3/29/68. She stated upon their leaving the truck stop, her husband did not mention to her anything of hearing of the plan to kill KING. She stated she does recall her

husband remarked, "If King goes back to Memphis he will be shot." Mrs. STRADER advised her husband did say he wanted to see STERN of NBC, Washington, D.C, whom he knew but did not know if he desired to see STERN.

Mrs. STRADER advised her husband returned to the family residence at Lexington, Illinois, on Friday, 4/26/68, where he remained until the morning of Saturday, 4/27/68, at which time STRADER and his mother-in-law had an argument over Mrs. STRADER's son by a previous marriage. Mrs. CARMICHAEL told STRADER to leave, which he did.

Mrs. STRADER stated she told her husband she had contacted Mr. DONALD T. SULLIVAN, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Springfield Office of the FBI, and that he, STRADER, should call Mr. SULLIVAN and set up an appointment; that Mr. SULLIVAN had informed her he would make an appointment to meet STRADER at any location or at any time when STRADER was available. Mrs. STRADER stated her husband told her he was afraid to attempt to meet with FBI Agents, as he felt he was being followed. Mrs. STRADER stated she was unable to convince her husband to make arrangements for a meeting with the FBI. She advised her husband is very much interested in obtaining protection.

Mrs. STRADER advised of some of her husband's activities, which are not concerning the murder of Dr. KING. She advised that she does not know all of her husband's business and that she is sure he has not told her all he knows.

Mrs. STRADER advised her husband is acquainted with RAYMOND STARNES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who told STRADER in the summer of 1967 that there were several businessmen in the area of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who were taking up a collection to obtain money to have KING assassinated. Mrs. STRADER advised her husband is well acquainted in the Baton Rouge and Denham Springs, Louisiana, area. She stated he was, in the summer of 1967, connected with the E.C. Donnell Construction Company of Denham Springs, La., which was doing construction work for the telephone company. She related E. C. DONNELL lives in Dallas, Texas. She related DONNELL had an equipment rental business and while STRADER and DONNELL were attempting to rent the equipment they were trying to gain financing for a recreational park in Louisiana similar to "Six Flags Over Texas." She related that some way they came in contact with a CHARLES and LILLIAN SHAPIRO (ph) of Miami, Florida, who advised they could finance same but were not interested, in a recreational park but would be interested in financing a horse racing track. Mrs. STRADER advised Mr. DONNELL obtained RAYMOND STARNES to help locate his land which could be used as a horse racing park. He also obtained sanction of the sheriff, (FNU) IRWIN and SAM BOSKO, both of Slidell, La; however, "things got out of hand" and an article

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appeared in "Life" magazine and the Governor of Louisiana placed a stop to the entire operation.

Mrs. STRADER advised her husband is in telephonic contact with her daily but declines to furnish information as to his location over the telephone, as he is very afraid. Mrs. STRADER was advised to inform her husband if he has any information he desires to furnish to the FBI, he can contact any FBI Field Office who will then arrange for an interview with him.

CARL STERN, Washington, D.C., NBC Office, advised a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that a man (FNU) STRADER, whom he had met on one occasion while covering a story in the South, had, on April 24, 1968, telephoned him from someplace around Toledo, Ohio. STRADER informed him he was en route to the home of his wife's parents in Lexington, Illinois. He then told STERN a "fantastic tale" about him, STRADER, overhearing a conversation on March 29, 1968 in Lebanon, Tennessee, concerning the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Apparently STRADER was of the impression that the people involved in the conversation knew he had overheard them and they had taken his license number. STRADER believed there had been at least one shot fired at him since that time. STRADER informed STERN he had vital information concerning KING's murder and called STERN for advice as to what he should do. STERN advised STRADER to call the Springfield Office of the FBI and they would make arrangements to have someone meet him at his convenience in their territory. According to Mr. STERN, BISHOP stated that STRADER is afraid to approach any office and may desire to have someone meet him at a location other than an office.

The files of the Springfield Office contain the following references to ROBERT STRADER, however, it cannot be determined at this point whether or not they refer to ROBERT HOOD STRADER of Lexington, Illinois.

On November 19, 1965, ROBERT STRADER, 6'1" -2", 175 lbs., employed cutting timber near Edwardsville, Illinois, and in construction work at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois, was considered a suspect in the robbery of the Hamel State Bank, Bufile 91-20560, SI file 91-2642.

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In 10-68 prosecution of ROBERT H. STRADER was declined in an ITSMV matter which involved a rental car. ROBERT H. STRADER had represented himself as an employee of General Telephone Co., of Illinois, and had skipped without properly checking out and without paying for his room. STRADER could not be located at that time but was described as a white, male, 35 L 40, 5'10" - 6', 150 lbs., dark brown hair, medium build and medium complexion. He was subject of Sifile 26-28035.

One ROBERT HOOB STRADER was subject of an ITSMV; UFAP - AUTO THEFT case in which Milwaukee was CO, 9/68, Bufile 26-316708, Sifile 26-28403. This individual had a rather extensive arrest record dating back to 11/48 at which time he was AWOL and which involved record of arrest for issuing worthless checks, mail fraud, investigation of forgery, and defrauding an innkeeper. ROBERT H. STRADER, whose FBI No. was given as 244 633 A

A check through NCIC on 4-30-68 indicated ROBERT STRADER was not currently wanted.

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

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B. INVESTIGATION, ELDORADO, ILLINOIS

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JERRY KINKADE, Principal, Eldorado High School, Eldorado, Illinois, on 4/29/68, made a search of past academic records available at the school. It was determined that in 1943 JAMES DEE RAY also known as Jimmy Ray graduated from the school. He is the son of J. A. RAY of Wagon, Illinois, and was born on 9/10/25 in Saline County and entered the school 9/1/39 and graduated 5/30/43 with a rank of 105 out of 119. RAY's year book photograph was examined as to identification with the subject in captioned case. The photo did not appear to be identical.

EMILIA JEAN FOX, nee Choizner, Eldorado Illinois, who is presently secretary to the principal at Eldorado High School stated that JAMES DEE RAY was a school mate of hers. She examined a photo of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that she is certain that the two are not identical. She further advised that she has seen JAMES DEE RAY within the past four years and that there is no question that his looks have not changed to the degree that he might resemble JAMES EARL RAY.

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C. CECIL RAY

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Mrs. FRENCH was contacted at her home on 4/29/68.

She advised that her ex-son-in-law, CECIL RAY, formerly of Vandalia, Illinois, has been to her residence on approximately two occasions within the last five years, accompanied by an individual who resembled JAMES EARL RAY. It is her belief that CECIL RAY referred to this person as JAMES RAY. Mrs. FRENCH was unable to furnish any more specific information as to the times or when the visits were made.

She stated that CECIL RAY was separated from her step-daughter, JUDITH EARLINE RAY, who resides at 1013 Main Street, Highland, Illinois. They have been separated about four years. CECIL RAY is believed to be employed in JOLIET, ILL., as a truck driver for an unidentified Gas and Oil Company and was last seen by Mrs. FRENCH in 1966. CECIL RAY's parents are deceased but he is believed to have a brother who resides in Vandalia, Illinois, name unknown. CECIL RAY was employed as a bartender at one time at an unidentified bar on the main street in Vandalia. MRS. FRENCH had no photograph and could furnish no description of CECIL RAY.

By way of background concerning MRS. FRENCH, her husband EARL FRENCH was beat to death in Effingham, Illinois, in early 1967 and the case has not been solved. Mrs. FRENCH resides alone with her dog and according to Sheriff A. P. DITTER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] She did refer to the death of her husband on several occasions and mentioned that she knew how Mrs. KING felt.

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

JUDITH RAY, 1013 Main Street, Highland, Illinois, was interviewed April 30, 1968, concerning her knowledge of possible association with the subject, JAMES EARL RAY.

JUDITH RAY, stated that her husband, CECIL RAY, is at the present time separated from her although they are not divorced. She stated that there is a state warrant outstanding against her husband, CECIL, issued by the States Attorney's Office at Edwardsville, Illinois, charging her husband with nonsupport of the 4 children which she has. JUDITH RAY stated that it is her understanding from the States Attorney's Office At Edwardsville, Illinois, that her husband may have recently moved to Wisconsin, in order to escape the warrant outstanding against him in the State of Illinois.

However, she stated that his location, if he has moved to Wisconsin, is unknown to her. She further stated that it is her belief that her husband CECIL RAY has not moved to Wisconsin, but is instead living in Vandalia, Illinois, with some of his relatives. She stated that she has on several occasions contacted relatives of her husband in Vandalia but they have refused to help her locate her husband. She related that it is her belief that the relatives know the location of her husband but refuse to cooperate with her in finding him and they know the warrant will be issued against him.

Mrs. RAY stated that she does not know of any association which her husband may have had with the subject but said he could have associated with him before their marriage in 1955 and may have associated sometime since then with him in Alton, Illinois.

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She stated that approximately 11 years ago, she and her husband resided in a downtown apartment in Alton, Illinois, and they resided there for approximately 3 years. She stated that during their stay in Alton, her husband brought numerous friends home with him to drink in the apartment or play cards and he never identified any of these persons with him. She stated that she never inquired as to their identity and would not be familiar with the name JAMES EARL RAY.

Mrs. RAY stated that her husband is wellknown in the Vandalia, Illinois area in that he was raised in that City. She stated that her husband's relatives all live in Vandalia and they possibly may know the present whereabouts of her husband.

She stated that she is anxious to learn the present whereabouts of her husband and that she will cooperate with the FBI in any way possible in determining his location. She stated that it is her belief if anyone knows his present whereabouts, it will be a member of his family in Vandalia.

It is her belief that his relatives there may be protecting his present address.

She stated that a member of the family most likely to know his address will be GILBERT RAY who lives on Randolph Street, Vandalia, Illinois. She stated that a brother of her husband, LARRY RAY, also resides in Vandalia, Illinois, but his address is unknown.

Another brother, STANLEY RAY resides in Vira, Illinois, and both parents of her husband are deceased.

Mrs. RAY stated that LEONARD BOWLE is a close friend of her husband and may possibly know his present whereabouts. She stated that he is the owner of Metzgers Tavern, Vandalia, Illinois, and the exact address is unknown to her.

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She further stated that PRESTON PRIOR who is the owner of a Mobil Station in Vandalia, which station is located at the junction of the Old Highway and the New Super Highway may possibly know her husband's present whereabouts in that her husband has worked for him from time to time.

Mrs. RAY stated that she knows very little about her husband's associates and that he would be the one to contact concerning them. She further stated that she knew very little of her husband's family background before they were married and there may be some associates at that time that she is unfamiliar with.

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RCH:skt

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROBERT C. HAINES:

At Edwardsville, Illinois

States Attorney LEON D. SCROGGINS, Madison County Court House, reviewed files maintained in his office and stated that a warrant for neglect and refusal was issued for CECIL RAY on complaint of his wife JUDITH in Madison County Court at Edwardsville. He stated that the information obtained at the time the complaint and warrant were issued disclosed that CECIL RAY was residing in Joliet, Illinois, and accordingly, certified copies of the warrant were forwarded to authorities at Joliet.

He indicated that he had no knowledge of the current whereabouts of CECIL RAY and that nothing in file indicated anything except that he was in Joliet.

On 5-13-68, Sheriff LEONARD KELLY, Fayette County, Vandalia, advised there are several members of the RAY family in the vicinity and he was seriously doubtful of any connection with the suspect in this case. According to investigation conducted to locate CECIL RAY, all members of the family are not too smart and prone to using alcohol to excess.

In this respect, LARRY RAY, a City of Vandalia employee, was jailed over the weekend of 5/11-12/68 for threatening his wife, but released on \$25.00 bond.

MARION KIRKPATRICK, an employee of the USPO, advised CECIL RAY lived in the same neighborhood, but has not been in Vandalia for at least two years, unless very briefly. No removal could be located at USPO, and no mail received during recent past. Tax and voter's records also negative.

GILBERT RAY, City of Vandalia employee in the street and garbage work, advised 5-14-68, he is an uncle of CECIL RAY and, to his knowledge, he has not heard of JAMES EARL RAY, but possibly CECIL could have known him, since at one time he was at Edwardsville and Alton. There is a brother STANLEY RAY who GILBERT believes is in Vira, Ill., where he works at Crane Packing Co. There is a half brother, RICHARD RISLEY, who lives in Joliet, address unknown. GILBERT RAY advised he had not seen or heard from CECIL RAY in several months and the last he knew he was in Peoria, Illinois, working at a Shite (phoenetic) Service Station, probably the Site brand of independent stations.

LEONARD BOWLES former associate of CECIL RAY advised he had heard nothing from him for two or three years. BOWLES no longer operates a tavern but helps his son-in-law in the tire recapping business. PRESTON PRIOR former associate, also had no recent information of CECIL's whereabouts. ^{INDEXED}

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During contact with Sheriff KELLY and Chief DALE SLATER, May 14, 1968, both advised that the entire family of this group "were a little on the stupid side."

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FBI JKSN MISS

FBI LOS ANG

347 AM URGENT 5/30/68 DPK/VLB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), ATLANTA (44-2386),
SAN DIEGO (44-387), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), SPRINGFIELD (44-561),
LAS VEGAS, LOUISVILLE, NEW ORLEANS (157-10653), JACKSON
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (12P)

MURKIN

RE JAMES C. HARDIN

AN AGGRESSIVE, PENETRATING, LENGTHY INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED
THIS DATE WITH ALLAN O. THOMPSON, MANAGER, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL.
THOMPSON ADVISED HE KNOWS THE INDIVIDUAL, WHOM HE PREVIOUSLY
REFUSED TO IDENTIFY, BY THE NAME OF "FITZ". HE ADVISED HE WAS
APPROACHED BY THIS INDIVIDUAL AT THE RABBIT'S FOOT BAR A FEW DAYS
AGO BUT COULD NOT RECALL SPECIFIC DATE. HE SAID THIS INDIVIDUAL
SAID, "YOUR MR. THOMPSON, AREN'T YOU?" AND THEN
PROCEEDED TO ASK IF THOMPSON WAS INTERESTED IN SPLITTING THE
REWARD MONEY OFFERED IN THE DR. MARTIN KING, JR. MURDER.
THOMPSON SAID HE TOLD THIS INDIVIDUAL HE WAS NOT INTERESTED. DURING
THE COURSE OF SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, THOMPSON SAID "FITZ"
TOLD HIM HE HAD OBSERVED JAMES EARL RAY, AKA ERIC GALT, AND
ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL SITTING TOGETHER, ENGAGED IN CONVERSATION AT
A LOCAL BAR, THE NAME OF WHICH WAS NOT MENTIONED. THOMPSON
END PAGE ONE

*Received in my
mail folder at 5:20 PM 6/3/68*

157-9586-550

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FBI-JACKSON	

② Puddista
① Jennings

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SAID THAT "FITZ" TOLD HIM RAY CALLED THIS INDIVIDUAL "J. C." THOMPSON SAID THE NAME "J. C." PROMPTED HIS RECOLLECTION OF EVENTS AS SET OUT IN LA TEL OF FIVE TWENTY EIGHT SIXTY EIGHT, THAT IS, RAY BEING CALLED TWICE, POSSIBLE THREE TIMES, BY JAMES C. HARDIN FROM NEW ORLEANS AND ATLANTA.

THOMPSON SAID THAT HE HAS SEEN "FITZ" ON AN INFREQUENT BASIS VICINITY OF THE HOLLYWOOD AND WESTERN AREA, LOS ANGELES, DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS. HE ADVISED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ASSOCIATES OF "FITZ", HIS RESIDENCE, PAST OR PRIOR, HIS AUTOMOBILE, OR HIS EMPLOYMENT, IF ANY. THOMPSON SAID AT SOME TIME AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR, HE BELIEVES HE EXPELLED "FITZ" AND ANOTHER CAUCASIAN MALE FROM THE PARKING LOT OF THE ST. FRANCIS WHERE THEY WERE SLEEPING IN AN AUTOMOBILE. THOMPSON SAID IT WAS ON THIS OCCASION THAT HE LEARNED OF THIS INDIVIDUALS NAME IN THAT THE PERSON, WITH WHOM HE WAS SLEEPING CALLED HIM "FITZ". THOMPSON ADVISED HE BELIEVED THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS THE SUBJECT OF A WARRANT FOR HIS ARREST BECAUSE WHEN THOMPSON TOLD HIM TO CONTACT THE FBI, "FITZ" TOLD HIM THAT HE COULDN'T. HE DESCRIBED "FITZ" AS CAUCASIAN MALE, THIRTY SEVEN - FORTY TWO, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, BROWN HAIR WORN SHORT AS IN CREW CUT, HABITUALLY WEARS SPORT SHIRT WITH CHEAP SLACKS.

END PAGE TWO

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THOMPSON SAID WHENEVER AND WHEREVER HE OBSERVES "FITZ", HE WILL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE FBI.

THOMPSON REITERATED THE INFORMATION AS SET OUT IN LA TELETYPE. HE ADDED ONLY THAT HE BELIEVES THE VOICE OF THE PERSON CALLING ON THE TELEPHONE WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS JAMES C. HARDIN, AND THE VOICE OF THE PERSON WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS MR. HARDIN AT THE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL AFTER THE TELEPHONE CALLS, TO BE IDENTICAL. HE SAID THAT ON ONE OCCASION HE HEARD THE OPERATOR AND A PERSON WHOM SHE CALLED "MR. HARDIN" CONVERSE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR GALT.

THOMPSON VIEWED THE FBI FACIAL IDENTIFICATION CATALOG IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN AN ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF HARDIN.

THOMPSON DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS CAUCASIAN MALE, BORN TWELVE TWENTY FIVE THIRTEEN AT ARIZONA , FIVE FOOT ELEVEN INCHES, ONE SIXTY POUNDS, BROWN GREYING HAIR, PARTIALLY BALD, HAZEL EYES, USMC NINETEEN FORTY TWO - NINETEEN FORTY SIX.

THOMPSON CLAIMS HE HAS FURNISHED ALL INFORMATION IN THIS MATTER CONCERNING BOTH "FITZ" AND JAMES C. HARDIN. HE STATES THAT HE BELIEVES THAT HE COULD IDENTIFY A PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES C. HARDIN. EFFORTS TO LOCATE "FITZ" ARE CONTINUING.

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RESULTS OF IDENTIFICATION CATALOG REGARDING JAMES C. HARDIN
ARE AS FOLLOWS.

- A. K A FOUR - TWELVE
- B. K B ONE - ONE
- C. K C ONE - FIVE
- D. K D ONE - TWO
- E. K E THREE - FOURTEEN
- F. K F ONE - ONE
- G. K G ONE - SEVEN
- H. K H TWO - ONE
- J. K J FIVE - THREE
- K. K K FOUR - SEVEN
- L. ZERO
- M. ZERO
- N. O N ONE - TEN

GENERAL DESCRIPTION IS SEX- MALE, AGE THIRTY FIVE- FORTY
RACE CAUCASIAN, COMPLEXION- COARSE SKIN, DARK, HEIGHT FIVE FT.
SEVEN INCHES - FIVE FT. EIGHT INCHES, WEIGHT ONE FORTY - ONE FIFTY,
SLENDER BUILD, COLOR OF EYES DARK, COLOR OF HAIR DARK.

FURNISH RESULT TO LOS ANGELS AND INTERESTED OFFICES.

END PAGE FOUR

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RE MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE (FEBRUARY ONE TO MARCH ONE LAST.)

LETTER ADDRESSED TO ERIC S. GALT RECEIVED MAY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, BY C. M. HEDGPETH AT FOUR ZERO SIX SOUTH SECOND, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA, OPERATOR OF CONFIDENTIAL MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE CONTRACTED FOR DURING FEBRUARY, SIXTY EIGHT, BY JAMES EARL RAY. LETTER READ QUOTE SHOW ME FIRST YOU MEAN BUSINESS UNQUOTE. LETTER SIGNED TONI, INITIAL C, INITIAL A, RETURN ADDRESS POST OFFICE BOX SIX FOUR THREE, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. (APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO GALT AD IN FREE PRESS.)

KENT ABRAMS INTERVIEWED MAY TWENTY NINE INSTANT, AND ADVISED HE RENTED POST OFFICE BOX ON OR ABOUT APRIL ONE LAST FOR FRIEND PLANNING TO OPERATE BUSINESS UTILIZING COMPUTER ANALYSIS TO LOCATE COMPATIBLE MARRIAGE PARTNERS. ABRAMS CLAIMS BUSINESS NEVER ACTIVATED AND NO MAIL RECEIVED AT POST OFFICE BOX, OR SENT WITH THAT RETURN ADDRESS. ABRAMS ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW RAY AND DOES NOT BELIEVE ANYONE CONNECTED WITH THE COMPUTER BUSINESS HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING HIM. COMPUTER BUSINESS ORGANIZED BY BOU A. GLENN AND THREE OF HIS FELLOW EMPLOYEES, ALL EMPLOYED AT THE ROCKETDYNE DIVISION OF NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION, CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA. GLENN AND ASSOCIATES IN COMPUTER BUSINESS BEING INTERVIEWED.

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RE SPRINGFIELD TEL TO LOS ANGELES, MAY TWENTY NINE,
CAPTIONED FRANCES E. RAY.

ON MAY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, FEMALE, USING NAME FRANCES E.
RAY, ADDRESS SIX ONE FOUR NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGON PARK, CALIFORNIA,
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED LOS ANGELES FBI AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS,
PD. CONCERNING WHEREABOUTS OF JERRY RAY.

FRANCES E. RAY WHO CLAIMS SHE IS A SECOND COUSIN TO JAMES
EARL RAY INTERVIEWED THIS DATE. STATED RELATED TO JAMES EARL
RAY BUT DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS OR
ACTIVITIES OR THAT SHE HAS EVER MET HIM.

SHE IS A [REDACTED], AND ADVISED
TELEPHONIC CONTACT MADE WITH FBI, LOS ANGELES, AND POLICE OF
QUINCY, ILLINOIS, BECAUSE SHE FELT VERY DEPRESSED FOR SUBJECT RAY.

FRANCES RAY ADVISED SHE IS DIVORCED AND HAS RESIDED IN LOS
ANGELES SINCE NINETEEN THIRTY THREE AND IS PRESENTLY RECEIVING
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

NORMA JEAN DOUGLAS, SIX THREE ONE NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGON PARK,
DAUGHTER OF FRANCES E. RAY, INTERVIEWED THIS DATE, DISCLAIMED ANY
KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES AND ADVISES FRANCES E.

RAY IS A [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

LA 44-1574

RE: WILLIAM A. MARSHALL (CONSIDER AS ARMED AND DANGEROUS)

COVINA PD FURNISHED FIVE CARDS BEARING PARTIAL LATENT PRINTS TAKEN FROM SIXTY SEVEN GOLD COLOR BLACK TOP PLYMOUTH BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE U T W ZERO ONE TWO RECOVERED AT COVINA. ALSO FURNISHED CHECK IN AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS SIGNED W. L. DE LUCA, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ALLEN A. KRAUSE. KRAUSE HAD ACCEPTED THIS CHECK TO COMPENSATE HIM FOR COLLISION DAMAGES AFTER ACCIDENT IN COVINA, MAY FIFTEEN LAST. PRINTS AND CHECK BEING FORWARDED FOR LABORATORY EXAMINATION. ALSO FURNISHED GULF OIL COMPANY GASOLINE INVOICE DATES MAY FIFTEEN LAST FOUND IN PLYMOUTH RECOVERED AT COVINA REFLECTING PURCHASE AT HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, UNDER NAME OF WILLIAM L. DE LUCA, CALIFORNIA LICENSE U T W ONE ZERO TWO ALSO FORWARDED FOR EXAMINATION.

ALLEN KRAUSE DESCRIBED DRIVER OF PLYMOUTH AS WMA, AGE THIRTY FIVE TO FORTY, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES OR SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY TO SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, STOCKY BUILD, BLACK STRAIGHT HAIR, WELL SHAVEN, BUT EVIDENCE OF HEAVY BEARD AND AT TIME OF ACCIDENT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY YOUTH DESCRIBED AS WHITE, AGE FOURTEEN TO SIXTEEN YEARS, TALL, BLOND CURLY HAIR, ALLEGEDLY HIS NEPHEW, NO NAME GIVEN. "DE LUCA" CLAIMED ON WAY TO LAS VEGAS. KRAUSE REPORTED ACCIDENT AND FACT THAT CHECK WAS FRAUDULENT AFTER CHECK RETURNED TO HIM BY BANK.

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

LA 44-1574

MARSHALL WHEN OBTAINING CAR AT CHULA VISTA WAS DESCRIBED AS WMA, AGE FORTY TO FORTY FIVE, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE TO EIGHTY POUNDS, DARK HAIR, FAIR TO MEDIUM COMPLEXION.

ACCORDING TO COVINA PD, CHULA VISTA PD SUSPECTS THAT WILLIAM H. MARSHALL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FIVE ARMED ROBBERIES OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS IN CHULA VISTA AREA. PERSON OF MARSHALL'S DESCRIPTION HAD CONTACTED REAL ESTATE AGENTS ABOUT HOME PURCHASE AS PRETEXT BEFORE ROBBING THEM. ALSO FOUND IN CAR WAS KEY OF S. S. WHEELER APTS, BALBOA, CALIFORNIA WITH NUMBER FOUR ON IT.

ON MAY TWENTY NINE LAST, DARLENE E. DE LUCA, MRS. WILLIAM LAWRENCE DE LUCA, EIGHT FOUR TWO TWO ALVARDO DRIVE, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED THAT AT TWO PM ON MAY FIFTEEN LAST, A MAN SHE DESCRIBED AS WHM, EARLY THIRTIES, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, DRIVING A GOLD AND BLACK CAR CAME TO HER HOME IN RESPONSE TO A SIGN IN FRONT INDICATING IT WAS FOR SALE BY OWNER. THE MAN INDICATED HE WAS INTERESTED IN BUYING THE HOME AND MRS. DE LUCA LEFT HIM IN HER LIVING ROOM AND WENT TO MAKE TELEPHONE CALL TO ARRANGE FOR A LATER APPOINTMENT.

END PAGE EIGHT

LA 44-1574

PAGE NINE

TO HANDLE DETAILS OF SALE. WAS GONE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES AND WHEN RETURNED MAN INDICATED HE WOULD OBTAIN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH AND RETURN FOLLOWING DAY TO HANDLE DETAILS. AFTER MAN LEFT, MRS. DE LUCA DISCOVERED HER CHECK BOOK AND NUMEROUS CREDIT AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND HER DRIVERS LICENSE HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM HER PURSE WHICH HAD BEEN IN THE LIVING ROOM.

MRS. DE LUCA REPORTED THEFT TO HUNTINGTON BEACH PD. MRS. DE LUCA CONTACTED BY DETECTIVE WOODRUM, VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA, PD, ON MAY TWENTY LAST, INDICATING A MAN ATTEMPTED TO PASS A CHECK FOR TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AT SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK, VICTORVILLE, AND WHILE TELLER VERIFYING ACCOUNT MAN LEFT THE BANK. DETECTIVE WOODRUM HAS CHECK DRAWN ON ACCOUNT OF W. L. DE LUCA AT SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK, LAKEWOOD PLAZA BRANCH, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA.

ON MAY TWENTY NINE, MRS. DE LUCA RECEIVED LETTER FROM PERRY'S COUNTRY STORE AND RESTAURANT, P. O. BOX FORTY FIVE BONSALL (SAN DIEGO COUNTY), CALIFORNIA, WHICH LETTER ENCLOSED ALL HER SUPERMARKET IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPHS, WHICH HAD BEEN AMONG ITEMS STOLEN.

END PAGE NINE

LA 44-1574

PAGE TEN

SHE STATED SHE CALLED MR. PERRY THIS DATE WHO ADVISED HER THE IDENTIFICATION CARD AND PHOTOGRAPHS WERE LEFT ON A TABLE IN HIS RESTAURANT BY A LONE WOMAN CUSTOMER.

MRS. DE LUCA ADVISED HER MONTGOMERY WARD, J. C. PENNEY'S, ATLANTIC DASH RICHFIELD, SHELL, MOBIL, AND GULF CREDIT CARDS STILL MISSING.

MRS. DE LUCA EXAMINED PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY AND INDICATED PHOTO SOMEWHAT RESEMBLED MAN WHO STOLE HER IDENTIFICATION BUT COULD NOT MAKE ANY IDENTIFICATION.

INQUIRY AT VICTORVILLE PD ASCERTAINED THAT WOODRUM HAS TAKEN LEAVE UNTIL MONDAY NEXT AND IS UNAVAILABLE. EFFORTS TO LOCATE CHECK IN PD RECORDS NEGATIVE. BANK PERSONNEL NOT AVAILABLE AT VICTORVILLE UNTIL FRIDAY NEXT.

WALTER DE PRIEST MAINTENANCE MAN, SS WHEELER APARTMENTS, ONE ONE ONE FIVE EAST BALBOA BOULEVARD, BALBOA, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED MAY TWENTY NINE LAST THAT A REVIEW OF RECORDS OF ABOVE APARTMENTS REVEALS THAT ONE J. A. WARREN ATTEMPTED TO RENT APARTMENT FOUR, WHEELER APARTMENTS APPROXIMATELY FIVE TWENTY LAST AT ABOUT TEN AM TO ELEVEN AM, ACCOMPAINED BY INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED AS HIS NEPHEW. WARREN STAYED ONLY APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS WITHOUT
END PAGE TEN

PAYING RENT AND THEN DEPARTED MAKING EXCUSES HE WAS GOING TO BANK TO SECURE FUNDS FOR RENT. HE TOOK KEY TO APARTMENT FOUR AND DID NOT RETURN IT. AT TIME OF REGISTRATION WARREN INDICATED RESIDENCE OF ONE TWO ONE EAST "G" STREET, CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, AND WAS DRIVING LATE MODEL PLYMOUTH FURY, BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE UTW ONE ZERO TWO. DE PRIEST HAS RECOLLECTION VEHICLE WAS TWO TONED GOLD IN COLOR. WARREN ADVISED IN CONVERSATION HE WAS EMPLOYED BY INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY AND WAS BEING SENT TO AFRICA BY THAT COMPANY.

WARREN DESCRIBED AS WMA, FORTY FIVE TO FIFTY, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, TO NINE INCHES, DARK BROWN GRAYING HAIR, RUDDY COMPLEXION, WORE TROUSERS AND SHIRT. HAD NO LUGGAGE IN POSSESSION.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPANYING WARREN, NAME NOT GIVEN, DESCRIBED AS WMA , APPROXIMATELY TWENTY, SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, LIGHT COMPLEXION, WORE SPORT CLOTHES.

PHOTO OF RAY EXHIBITED TO DE PRIEST AND STATES NOT IDENTICAL WITH WARREN. PHOTO OF RAY ALSO EXHIBITED MRS. LAVERNE WHEELER, OWNER ABOVE APARTMENTS, WHO STATED THIS INDIVIDUAL NOT RECOGNIZED BY HER AS RESIDING WHEELER APARTMENTS.

LOS ANGELES WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE INDIVIDUAL
END PAGE ELEVEN

LA 1574

PAGE TWELVE

WHO STOLE ONE NINE SIX SEVEN PLYMOUTH AND WILL SECURE
AND FORWARD CHECK FROM VICTORVILLE TO LABORATORY.

SAN DIEGO AT BONSALL ASCERTAIN FULL FACTS CONCERNING
RETURN OF MRS. DE LUCA 'S IDENTIFICATION MATERIAL FROM PERRY'S
COUNTRY STORE ALSO NOTE ADDRESS AT CHULA VISTA AS GIVEN AT
BALBOA WHEN INDIVIDUAL UTILIZED NAME WARREN.

SPRINGFIELD THROUGH JERRY RAY ASCERTAIN HOW WELL KNOWN A
RELATIVE FRANCES RAY OF HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA MIGHT BE.
ALSO NOTE SAME USE OF NAME OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTOR COMPANY AT
BALBOA BY THE WM. MARSHALL INDIVIDUAL UTILIZING NAME WARREN
AS WAS USED FIVE FOURTEEN LAST AT CHULA VISTA IN SAN DIEGO
TEL FIVE SIXTEEN SIXTYEIGHT, COPY YOUR OFFICE.

LAS VEGAS CONTACT SO AND LAS VEGAS PD CONCERNING
WILLIAM A. MARSHALL WITH ALIASES TO DETERMINE IF SIMILAR M.O.
AS DESCRIBED BY CHULA VISTA P D IS BEING NOW USED AT LAS VEGAS.
SAN DIEGO TEL FIVE SIXTEEN SIXTY EIGHT FURNISHED LAS VEGAS.

COPIES OF THIS TEL FURNISHED OTHER OFFICES IN VIEW OF INFO
RE JAMES C. HARDIN.

INVESTIGATION ALL PHASES CONTINUING AT LOS ANGELES.

END

BLH

FBI JKSN MISS

TUP

F B I

Date: 5/29/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM: JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MAY TWENTY NINE,
INSTANT.RE JAMES C. HARDIN

A REVIEW OF FILES OF THE JACKSON OFFICE REVEAL NAME
JAMES HARDIN MENTIONED IN REPORT OF SA JOHN T. REYNOLDS,
AT NEW ORLEANS, DATED OCTOBER TWENTY SIX, SIXTY TWO, CAPTIONED
"DESEGREGATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI." A LARGE
NUMBER OF AUTO LICENSES WERE RECORDED DURING RIOT AT
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI ON OCTOBER ONE, SIXTY TWO. SIXTY
TWO MISSISSIPPI LICENSE C/TWO NINE DASH TWO THREE EIGHT SIX,
WAS OBSERVED AND DETERMINED LATER TO BE REGISTERED TO JAMES
HARDIN, FULTON, MISSISSIPPI, FOR A FIFTY SEVEN CHEVROLET.
INDICES OF NEW ORLEANS AND MEMPHIS OFFICES NOT KNOWN TO

REVEAL ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS JAMES HARDIN

1 - Jackson
1 - Memphis (AM)

1 - New Orleans (157-10673) (AM) 1 - Atlanta (AM)

SNJ/pac

Searched
Serialized

Indexed

Per

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

1, Serial 157-9586-549

Rec. by
Rudolph
6/3/68

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

AND JACKSON INDICES REVEAL NO OTHER RECORD FOR HIM.

JACKSON FILES ALSO REVEAL ONE J. HARDIN, THREE ONE ONE ZERO OLD CANTON ROAD, JACKSON, MISS., INTERVIEWED DURING NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION, NOVEMBER TWENTY TWO, SIXTY SEVEN, SUBSEQUENT TO BOMBING OF RESIDENCE OF RABBI PERRY E. NUSSBAUM, THREE FOUR ONE ZERO OLD CANTON ROAD, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. INQUIRY ON MAY TWENTY NINE, SIXTY EIGHT, REVEALS ABOVE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME IS JABUS L. HARDIN, WHO HAS OPERATED A BEAUTY SHOP AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS AND HAS NOT BEEN IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

CURRENT CITY AND TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, DO NOT REVEAL ANYONE NAMED JAMES HARDIN, JAMES C. HARDIN OR J. C. HARDIN. NO FURTHER EFFORT BEING MADE TO LOCATE HARDIN IN THE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC LEAD.

AIRMAIL COPIES FURNISHED MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS, AND ATLANTA. END.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

?FBI JKSN MISS

FBI NEW ORLS

200PM 5-29-68 URGENT LWH

TO DIRECTOR (MAIL), JACKSON AND LOUISVILLE
FROM NEW ORLEANS L57-10673

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE DIRECTOR MAY TWENTYEIGHT,
SIXTYEIGHT, AND NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY TWENTYNINE,
SIXTYEIGHT.

RE JAMES C. HARDIN. *J. C. Hardin*

FOR INFORMATION JACKSON AND LOUISVILLE, WHO HAVE NOT
PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED COPIES OF RE TELETYPES, THE FOLLOWING
BACKGROUND SET FORTH:

REFERENCED LOS ANGELES TELETYPE ADVISED ACCORDING TO
ALLAN O. THOMPSON, MANAGER, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, LOS ANGELES,
HE HAD CONVERSATION WITH CAUCASIAN MALE, WHOM HE REFUSES
TO IDENTIFY, WHICH PROMPTED HIS RECOLLECTION OF CERTAIN EVENTS
AS CONCERNS JAMES EARL RAY NOT EARLIER RECALLED. THOMPSON

Jackson
to
review
file
157-9586541

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>B</i>
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FBI-JACKSON	

Denning

NO 157-10673

PAGE TWO

SAID THIS UNNAMED INDIVIDUAL INQUIRED ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JAMES EARL RAY, AKA ERIC STARVO GALT, AND A CAUCASIAN MALE BY THE NAME OF JAMES HARDIN. THOMPSON SAID THIS UNNAMED INDIVIDUAL APPROACHED HIM IN EFFORT TO QUOTE GET A PIECE OF THE ACTION UNQUOTE CONCERNING THE REWARD MONEY. THOMPSON SAID THAT AS RESULT THIS CONVERSATION, HE NOW RECALLS DURING PERIOD MARCH ONE LAST TO MARCH SEVENTEEN LAST HE RECEIVED CALL FOR ERIC GAULT WHILE OPERATING HOTEL SWITCHBOARD. THOMPSON SAID WHEN HE ADVISED THE CALLER ERIC GALT HAD NO TELEPHONE IN HIS ROOM, THE MAN REQUESTED HIM TO LEAVE MESSAGE FOR ERIC GALT TO CALL JAMES C. HARDIN COLLECT. THIS CALLER PROVIDED THE CITY AND OPERATOR NUMBER, AS WELL AS NAME JAMES C. HARDIN. THOMPSON SAID HE RELAYED THIS INFORMATION TO GALT. THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS QUITE SURE AS TO SPELLING OF NAME.

THOMPSON ADVISED THAT SUBSEQUENT TO INITIAL TELEPHONE CALL THERE WAS ONE OTHER, POSSIBLY TWO, CALLS BY THIS SAME INDIVIDUAL. HE ADVISED THIS CALLS CAME FROM BOTH ATLANTA AND NEW ORLEANS.

PAGE THREE

HE SAID SUBSEQUENT TO THESE TELEPHONE CALLS A PERSON WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS JAMES C. HARDIN CAME TO ST. FRANCIS HOTEL SOMETIME DURING PERIOD OF MARCH ONE TO SEVENTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT. HE ADVISED THIS INDIVIDUAL DID NOT RESIDE AT ST. FRANCIS HOTEL. THOMPSON DESCRIBED THIS INDIVIDUAL AS MALE CAUCASIAN, THIRTY FIVE TO FORTY, FIVE SEVEN TO FIVE EIGHT IN HEIGHT, ONE FORTY TO ONE FIFTY POUNDS, DARK HAIR COMBED BACK, NEAT, EYES POSSIBLY DARK, SLENDER BUILD, DARK COMPLEXION, SLIGHTLY ACNE SCARRED, SPOKE WITH SLIGHT SOUTHERN ACCENT.

THOMPSON SAID THE INDIVIDUAL WHO BROUGHT HARDIN TO HIS ATTENTION DOES NOT WISH TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF. HE SAID HE BELIEVES THIS INDIVIDUAL IS SUBJECT OF OUTSTANDING WARRANT FOR SOME UNKNOWN OFFENSE. THOMPSON WAS ADVISED OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS MATTER AND, FURTHER, THAT HE COULD POSSIBLY BE SUBPOENAED TO PROVIDE ABOVE INFORMATION. THOMPSON SAID HE MADE PROMISE TO THIS INDIVIDUAL WHICH HE FULLY INTENDS TO KEEP. HE STATED IT WOULD TAKE COURT ACTION TO INDUCE HIM TO IDENTIFY THIS INDIVIDUAL.

PAGE FOUR

THOMPSON SAID THE INDIVIDUAL WHOM HE REFUSED TO IDENTIFY SAID HE SAT NEXT TO JAMES EARL RAY, AKA ERIC STARVO GALT, AND HARDIN. THOMPSON SAID THIS INDIVIDUAL MAINTAINED HE OVERHEARD GALT CALL THE OTHER "J.C."

NEW ORLEANS INDICES CONTAINED NO RECORD OF ANYONE BY THE NAME OF JAMES C. HARDIN.

INDICES REVEALED REFERENCE FOR ONE JAMES HARDIN, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED, NO FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO TWO ONE, BUFILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - FOUR ZERO ONE, JACKSON FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO ZERO. THIS CASE CAPTIONED DESSEGREGATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI; RM, OOJ, AFO, CONSPIRACY. THIS REFERENCE COULD NOT BE REVIEWED AS ENTIRE FILE SENT JACKSON IN AUGUST, SIXTYFOUR, AT TIME JACKSON OFFICE OPENED.

NEW ORLEANS INDICES ALSO CONTAIN REFERENCE ON ONE J. C. HARDIN, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED, IN THE CASE INVOLVING THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND; IS - C, BUFILE ONE ZERO ZERO - ONE ZERO THREE FIVE FIVE, NEW ORLEANS FILE

PAGE FIVE

ONE ZERO ZERO - SEVEN FIVE NINE. THIS NAME APPEARED ON EIGHT TWENTYFIVE FOOT ROOLS OF PHOTO RECORD FILM CONTAINING PHOTOGRAPPHS OF CARDS BEARING NAMES OF PERSONS ON FINANCIAL RECORDS, MAILING LISTS OF SCEF, AS WELL AS LISTS OF SUBSCRIBERS TO SOUTHERN PATRIOT. THIS FILM NOT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW, BUT SENT LOUISVILLE ON AUGUST EIGHT, SIXTYSIX, WHEN LOUISVILLE MADE ORIGIN IN INVESTIGATION OF SCEF.

JACKSON SHOULD REVIEW INDICES FOR ANY INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH JAMES C. HARDIN, JAMES HARDIN OR J. C. HARDIN. IN PARTICULAR, REVIEW REFERENCE CONTAINED IN YOUR FIVE ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO ZERO, RE JAMES HARDIN. FOR POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE, THE NEW ORLEANS REFERENCE FOR JAMES HARDIN IS ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO TWO ONE - TWO ZERO THREE SIX, PAGE EIGHTYFOUR. 203 ←

LOUISVILLE SHOULD REVIEW INDICES FOR ANY INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH JAMES C. HARDIN, J. C. HARDIN AND JAMES HARDIN AND, IN PARTICULAR, REVIEW THE REFERENCE ON J. C. HARDIN

PAGE SIX

MENTIONED ABOVE, WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE SCEF FILE. FOR
POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE OF LOUISVILLE, THE NEW ORLEANS REFERENCE
IS ONE ZERO ZERO - SEVEN FIVE NINE - ONE B NINE.

JACKSON AND LOUISVILLE SHOULD ADVISE BUREAU AND APPROPRIATE
OFFICES OF RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION.

ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LDG

FBI JKSN MISS

P

F B I

Date: 5-23-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) P

RE: MURKIN

REBUAIRTEL, 5-16-68, concerning allegation by JOHN EUGENE GAWRON that subject and an unnamed man robbed bank June - July, 1967.

On re-interview late 5-22-68, GAWRON revealed location of bank as Alton, Ill., and identity of unnamed man who robbed same with subject as JIMMIE (LNU). Stated he was visited by JIMMIE nights of 5-13 and 5-14-68.

One JAMES H. CARPENTER, FBI # 230 243 is known to have visited GAWRON on those dates with another individual.

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - Chicago (Info)
- 1 - Detroit (Info)
- 1 - Indianapolis (Info)
- 1 - Jackson (Info)
- 1 - Kansas City (Info)
- 1 - Knoxville (Info)
- 1 - Memphis (Info)
- 1 - Milwaukee (Info)
- 1 - Minneapolis (Info)
- 1 - New Orleans (Info)
- 1 - Omaha (Info)
- 1 - Little Rock (Info)
- 1 - Springfield (Info)

HRD:wma
(16)

157-9586-547

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 28 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

SL: 42-775

SL files disclose BANK OF ALTON, Alton, Ill., was robbed by two unknown subjects on 7-13-67 (Bufile 91-27494) (Sifile 91-3699) (SLfile 91-3877). Description of number two man could fit RAY. Number ~~two~~ ^{one} man description does not fit CARPENTER, who is 5'8", 140 #, slender build.

St. Louis City Jail records established CARPENTER was in City Jail from 6-5-67 to 3-1-68, and therefore could not have participated in the Alton BR, or met GAWRON during 1967 as alleged.

In view of foregoing, GAWRON is being considered as being of known unreliability.

Subject should STILL be considered as a possible suspect in all unsolved bank and other robberies subsequent to 4-23-67.

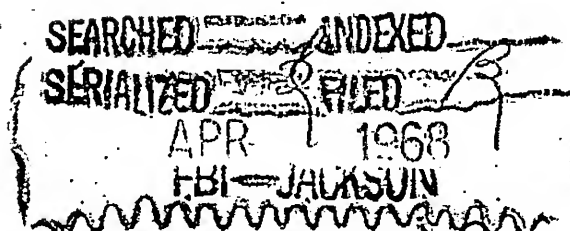
Subject A & D.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

BENNIE FLOYD, JR., 1447 South Theobard Street, Greenville, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY.

FLOYD advised that he had no objection to having his photograph taken in order that it might be shown to witnesses in the Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING murder.



On 4/6/68 at Greenville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-3974
157-9586
by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY
SA DOMINICK DI DOMENICO/JWN:bls Date dictated 4/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

DATE: 5/24/68

FROM : *RKM* SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The Bureau has furnished the following information concerning JAMES EARL RAY:

RAY has been known to stay at "flophouses" and lower-class rooming houses. He has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums."

The Bureau also has suggested that offices covering State capitals, if not already done, at driver's license bureaus check all driver's license applications for the months of April and May, 1968, concerning all male Caucasians over thirty years of age and under 55 years of age, in view of the fact it is possible subject secured driver's license using a name other than aliases known. As a result of reviewing such applications, appropriate investigation should be conducted to determine if any such individual is identical with the subject.

All SA's should bear in mind that in daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads, and prostitutes, that subject RAY has consorted with characters of this type in the past.

The Jackson Headquarters has furnished a copy of Identification Order concerning RAY to the Salvation Army mission at Jackson. Each SRA is requested to ascertain if Salvation Army or other such charitable mission centers for men exists in their territory and, if so, furnish copy of IO where appropriate.

84

Jackson
(1) - 157-9586)
(1 - Each Agent)
JLP:mif
(84) *mg*



157-9586-545

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

JN 157-9586

In the Driver's License Bureau, Jackson, Mississippi, the computer department has programmed the requested category, white males from 30 years of age to 55 years of age, who have applied for driver's license during the months of April and May. Upon receipt of results of this data, leads will be forwarded appropriately to eliminate the applicants as being identical with subject RAY.

SUBJECT IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 5/24/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE DEFERRED
(Priority)FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

TO: CHICAGO

FROM: JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN.

RE KANSAS CITY TEL TO JACKSON MAY TWENTY TWO LAST.

RE ATTORNEY PHILLIP BAKER, INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

[REDACTED]

GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, LOCATED TODAY. SHE ADVISED [REDACTED]

JOHN MYERS, RESIDING AT FIVE TWO NINE WEST PALATINE ROAD, PALATINE, ILLINOIS. SHE LAST HEARD FROM HIM ON MOTHER'S DAY WHEN HE TELEPHONED HER FROM CHICAGO. [REDACTED]

REQUESTED HER IDENTITY BE CONCEALED AND SHE WANTS NOTHING TO DO [REDACTED]

CHICAGO AT PALATINE, ILLINOIS LOCATE AND INTERVIEW JOHN MYERS. *Armed & DANGEROUS*

AIR MAIL COPY TO KANSAS CITY.

1 - Kansas City (AM) (44-760)

① - Jackson

JLP:lp

(2) *JP*

Searched _____

Serialized _____ *let*Indexed _____ *let*Filed _____ *let**157-9586-544**CCO Attached for Underlying*Approved: *RKM*Sent *5:48 p*

M

Per *Rem*

Special Agent in Charge

FEI CHICAGO

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

FEI JKSN MISS

548 PM DEFERRED 5-24-68 REM

TO CHICAGO

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN.

RE KANSAS CITY TEL TO JACKSON MAY TWENTY TWO LAST.

RE ATTORNEY PHILLIP BAKER, INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

[REDACTED]
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, LOCATED TODAY. SHE ADVISED [REDACTED]

JOHN MYERS, RESIDING AT FIVE TWO NINE WEST PALATINE ROAD,

PALATINE, ILLINOIS. SHE LAST HEARD FROM HIM ON MOTHER'S

DAY WHEN HE TELEPHONED HER FROM CHICAGO. [REDACTED]

REQUESTED HER IDENTITY BE CONCEALED AND SHE WANTS NOTHING

TO DO WITH [REDACTED]

CHICAGO AT PALATINE, ILLINOIS LOCATE AND INTERVIEW

JOHN MYERS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIR MAIL COPY TO KANSAS CITY.

END

RGT

FEI CHICAGO

157-9586-544
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

5/22/68

PLAINTEXT

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

FOIA(b) (6)
FOIA(b) (7) - (C)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

Re Dallas airtel to Bureau 5/1/68 regarding alleged offer of \$100,000 by White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (WKKKK) Jackson, Mississippi, to anyone who kills MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and Atlanta airtel to Bureau dated 5/3/68.

Enclosed for Las Vegas is one copy each of Dallas airtel to Bureau dated 6/6/67, Kansas City airtel to Bureau 7/21/67, and Dallas airtel to Bureau 5/1/68, which are background information.

By communication dated 5/8/68, Atlanta advised that on 5/8/68, Mr. J. E. McWHORTER, Spencer International Press, Atlanta, Georgia, advised [redacted] is no longer employed by that company, having left approximately 12/67, to go to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he was employed by the Americana Encyclopedia Company. McWHORTER stated he recently learned that [redacted] is working in Panama City, Florida, selling a safety device which operates as a gyroscope.

3-Bureau
2-Las Vegas (Enc. 3)
1-Jackson (Info)
2-Memphis (44-1987)
2-Jacksonville
WLB/enl
(10)

157-9586-543

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

AK 44-785

He stated the name of the unit is the Auto Safety Control and the company office is located in Reno, Nevada.

Investigation by the Jacksonville Division at Panama City, Florida, has determined that as of 5/16/68, the files of the Bay County SO and the Panama City PD failed to reflect any information concerning [REDACTED]

On 5/16/68, Mrs. MARY MUCKABEE, Credit Bureau of Panama City, advised the only information in her files concerning [REDACTED] is a notation indicating that as of January, 1966, he was residing at 6612 East Highway 98, which is the address for the Paradise Trailer Park.

On 5/20/68, ERNEST L. THORNE, Operator, Paradise Trailer Park, 6612 East Highway 98, advised that his records are not available prior to 1/67, and that he has no record of [REDACTED] having ever residing at the Paradise Trailer Park.

On 5/20/68, D. R. HINTON, JR., Manager, Gulf Power Company, Panama City, Florida, advised that his files contained no record of DONALD JAMES MISSEN.

LEADS

LAS VEGAS

AT RENO, NEVADA

Will locate [REDACTED] through the company offices of Auto Safety Control and interview him for any information he may have obtained regarding the alleged offer to kill KING since [REDACTED] release from jail on 6/13/67.

For the information of the Las Vegas Office, the Jackson Office, in 7/67, advised the WKKKK were in bad financial strait, having a difficult time raising enough money to defend members of this organization after their arrest.

Information copy being furnished to Jackson inasmuch as present investigation being conducted by that Division.

5/22/68

A I R T E L

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Little Rock teletype to Bureau 5/10/68 and
Memphis airtel to Chicago 5/13/68.

Enclosed for each office is a Xerox copy of a
State of Mississippi Certificate of Death concerning JOHNNY
SMITH.

Enclosed made available on 5/21/68 by Mrs. CONNIE
ZUGAJ, Clerk, Old Republic Life Insurance Company, 307 North
Michigan, Chicago. The file concerning SMITH reflected no
other pertinent information.

A+D

- 2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Jackson (157-9586) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Little Rock (Enc. 1) (157-1215) (Info) 157-9586-542
- 2 - Chicago

LFK:jap
(7)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

5/22/68

A I R T E L

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- ② - Jackson (157-9586) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Little Rock (Enc. 1) (157-1215) (Info)
- 2 - Chicago

LFK:jap
(7)

157-9586-542

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>W</i>	FILED <i>W</i>
MAY 24 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

[Signature]

FORM NO. 511

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICECERTIFICATE OF DEATH
STATE OF MISSISSIPPISTATE
FILE NO.

BIRTH NO.

REGISTRAR'S NO.

1. PLACE OF DEATH a. COUNTY DeSoto		2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived. If institution: Residence before admission) a. STATE Tenn. b. COUNTY Shelby	
3. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Hernando		4. LENGTH OF STAY IN 10 Memphis	
5. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION (If not in hospital, give street address)		6. STREET ADDRESS 3587 Lamar	
7. IS PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		8. IS RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print) First Johnny Middle Smith Last Smith		4. DATE OF DEATH Month 11 Day 27 Year 66	
5. SEX Male	6. COLOR OR RACE White	7. MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> NEVER MARRIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WIDOWED <input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED <input type="checkbox"/>	8. DATE OF BIRTH 8/14/14
9. AGE (In years last birthday) 52		10. IF UNDER 1 YEAR Months 11 Days 13 Hours 13 Min. 52	
10a. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Salesman		10b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Self employed	
11. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) Alabama		12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? USA	
13. FATHER'S NAME Josh Smith		14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Bridgett McNalley	
15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) (If yes, give war or dates of service)		16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	
17. INFORMANT Miss Nellie Smith - Same		Address	
18. CAUSE OF DEATH [Enter only one cause, per (a), (b), and (c).] PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) D.O.A. - (Found dead) DUE TO (b) Natural causes DUE TO (c) Coronary thrombosis PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I (a)			
19. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
20a. ACCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> SUICIDE <input type="checkbox"/> HOMICIDE <input type="checkbox"/>			
20b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in Part I or Part II of item 18.)			
20c. TIME OF INJURY Hour 5 Month 11 Day 27 Year 66 a. m. 00 p. m. 00			
20d. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/> NOT WHILE AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/>		20e. PLACE OF INJURY (e. g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.) DOA	
21. I attended the deceased from DOA to DOA and last saw her alive on DOA Death occurred at DOA on the date stated above; and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.			
22a. SIGNATURE H.M. Wadsworth, M.D. (Degree or title)		22b. ADDRESS Hernando	
22c. DATE SIGNED 5 Dec 66			
23a. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (Specify) Burial	23b. DATE 12/17/66	23c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Calvary	23d. LOCATION (City, town, or county) (State) Nashville, Tenn.
24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR Memphis Funeral Home - Memphis, Tenn.		25. DATE RECD. BY LOCAL REG.	
26. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE			

Revised 1-1-56

157-9586-541

SEARCHED ☒ INDEXED ☒
SERIALIZED ☒ FILED ☒
MAY 24 1968
FBI-JACKSON

This is to certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original death certificate.

Memphis Funeral Home

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7 day of Dec 19 66

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 14, 1969

Mary J. Jensen
Notary Public

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/8/68

BENNIE FLOYD, JR., 1447 South Theobard Street, Greenville, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY and of his rights as appear on a warning and waiver form. FLOYD advised that he preferred not to sign any statement unless he had to but would answer any questions concerning his activities.

FLOYD advised that he joined the United Klans of America, Greenville Unit, about two years ago. He became tired of the same old stories and lies and quit the organization in the Fall of 1967. He attended a few meetings of the Community Defense Force (CDF) or the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi, as it is presently called. He stated he filled out certain forms with CDF but is not presently a member. He advised that he belongs to the Americans for the Preservation of the White Race (APWR) but no other organizations. He stated he feels that the white race in this country is in danger and agrees with the APWR literature and plans to support the organization. FLOYD declined to furnish any information about the activities of the APWR or its leaders. He refused to furnish any information about any of the other Klan groups to which he admitted to have been a member.

FLOYD advised that he does, in fact, own a 1965 Ford Mustang, two-door, white in color, VIN 5F07C756349. He advised that he was in Greenville, Mississippi, with his family at 1447 South Theobard Street and at the family farm, located near the Greenville City Dump during the day and evening of Thursday, April 4, 1968. He stated he expected a visit from the FBI in regard to the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in Memphis because of his white Mustang and his past participation in a Klan organization. He stated that he was not involved in Dr. KING's death in any way.

On 4/5/68 at Greenville, Mississippi

SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY
SA DOMINICK DI DOMENICO/JWN:bls

by

File #

JACKSON 157-9586-540

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED 157-9586-540

Date dictated

APR 10 1968
FBI - JACKSON

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-3974
157-9586

2

He stated his car has not been loaned to anyone and has been parked in his yard for the past week. It was in his yard the day Dr. KING was shot.

FLOYD stated he does not agree with the violent activities which resulted in Dr. KING's death. This will serve only to make a martyr of Dr. KING. He stated he knows all the local Klansmen well and does not feel that any would participate in such an action. They criticize the activities of civil rights leaders and make harsh statements but are not capable of carrying out any threats such as was carried out against Dr. KING. FLOYD stated that he is the only Klansmen, to his knowledge in this area, who has a white Mustang. He stated he knows of no other Klansman having a white Mustang.

The following description of BENNIE FLOYD, JR., was obtained through interview and observations:

Name:	BENNIE FLOYD, JR.
Alias:	"Sonny Floyd"
Date of Birth:	August 27, 1931
Place of Birth:	Greenville, Mississippi
Height:	6 feet 2 inches
Weight:	180
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Marital Status:	Married
Occupation:	Produce farmer
Physical Build:	Slim
Complexion:	Red, ruddy
Dress:	Work clothes, dark brown, quilted nylon jacket

F B I

Date: **May 21, 1968**

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via **Airtel** _____

(Priority)

To: All SACs
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

[Signature]
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office.

This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and dangerous.

Memo to all SAs

157-9586-539

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

[Signature]

Sent Via _____

M

Per _____

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)FOIA (b) (6)
FOIA (b) (7) - (C)

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN
CR

Re Houston airtel to Bureau, 5/3/68, concerning long distance telephone calls from public telephone on Interstate 10.

Enclosed for each office designated are two copies of a report insert concerning information furnished by [redacted] (Protect), telephone number 372-3537, who resides at Forest Hill Road, Jackson, Miss.

It is noted that HENDERSON states JIMMY (LNU) does not resemble photos of subject RAY, however, he alleges that this individual along with SYLVIA SNOWDEN and her sister GLENDA WILKINSON stayed at his residence in Jackson, Miss., either the day of or immediately after the slaying of KING and that they had just arrived in Jackson from Memphis, Tennessee. He described JIMMY (LNU) as a white male, 5'9" to 5'10", 160 to 170 pounds, approximately 24 years of age, brown hair, medium build, with eyes close together, oddness about the eyes, and a very neat dresser.

LEADSHOUSTON

- 2 - Houston (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (157-10673) (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Jackson

ILP/pac

(8)

157-9586-538

Indexed
FiledKing
(Info)

Approved: _____

Sent _____

Special Agent in Charge

JN 157-9586

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Will locate and interview SYLVIA SNOWDEN, telephone 453-2874. SNOWDEN should be questioned concerning her arrival and departure in Memphis in April, 1968, her daily activities while in Memphis, and complete background information developed particularly her association and travel with JIMMY (LNU). It should be noted that SNOWDEN allegedly resides with this individual.

NEW ORLEANS

AT LAROSE, LOUISIANA

Will attempt to locate GLENDA WILKINSON or GELENDIA WILKINSON, sister of SYLVIA SNOWDEN. She allegedly works as a barmaid in Larose. The same information as set forth in Houston lead should be obtained from WILKINSON.

JACKSON

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED] and attempt to further develop this individual in matters of interest to the Bureau.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

JN 157-9586

SBK/jsk

1

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

The following investigation was conducted by
SA STEPHEN B. KING at Forest Hill, Mississippi, on
May 22, 1968:

[REDACTED]
Forest Hill Road, Forest Hill, Mississippi, provided the
following information:

[REDACTED] advised that he currently works out of
Iron Workers, Local Number 469, Jackson, Mississippi. He
advised he is currently employed in Vicksburg, Mississippi.
[REDACTED] further advised that he has lived at his current
address for the past 18 years.

[REDACTED] stated that on or about December 16,
1967, he received a telephone call from SYLVIA SNOWDEN,
white female, who resides in Houston, Texas. [REDACTED]
stated that SNOWDEN mentioned the fact that she was calling
from a pay phone. [REDACTED] went on to say that SNOWDEN
[REDACTED] at
which time she left for Houston. [REDACTED] said he was
not married to SNOWDEN.

[REDACTED] advised that SNOWDEN told him she was
pregnant by him. He added that he knows SNOWDEN to be a
[REDACTED] He further advised that he knows SNOWDEN
to be living in Houston with a JIMMY (Last Name Unknown)
(LNU), white male. [REDACTED] stated that he knows JIMMY LNU
to be a pipe welder working out of a local union in Houston,
Texas.

[REDACTED] said that he knows JIMMY LNU, SYLVIA
SNOWDEN, and GLENDA WILKINSON, sister to SYLVIA SNOWDEN, to
have been in Memphis, Tennessee, immediately prior to the
slaying of Reverend Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. [REDACTED]

JN 157-9586

SBK/jsk

2

advised that he knows both SNOWDEN and WILKINSON to be originally from Meridian, Mississippi, and to be prostitutes who work as barmaids. [] went on to say that JIMMY LNU, SYLVIA SNOWDEN, and GLENDA WILKINSON stayed at his residence either the day of or immediately after the slaying of KING and he knew them to have arrived from Memphis, Tennessee. He described JIMMY LNU as a white male, 5'9" to 5'10", 160 pounds to 170 pounds, approximately 24 years of age, brown hair, medium build, with eyes close together - oddness about the eyes, and a very neat dresser.

He added that JIMMY LNU was somewhat quiet and seemed to observe a lot. He stated that after staying with him for a couple of days, the trio left for Larose, Louisiana, where WILKINSON is employed as a barmaid. [] said he thought both SNOWDEN and JIMMY LNU went on to Houston. [] advised that it was his impression that JIMMY LNU was originally from Louisiana, but had been in Houston for some time. He further advised that he thought JIMMY LNU to be in some sort of trouble and perhaps out on bond for "shooting up a place" in Louisiana.

[] advised that he knew SYLVIA SNOWDEN could be reached at telephone number 453-2874 in Houston. He also said that he knew her to have worked at one time at both the ElRanch Lounge on Raymond Road, Jackson, Mississippi, and the Capri Lounge, Cooper Road, Jackson, Mississippi.

[] stated that he had seen pictures of JAMES EARL RAY in the newspaper, and that JIMMY LNU did not resemble the pictures he had seen in the paper. [] could provide no further information at this time.

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN
CR

Enclosed for Memphis and Knoxville are two Avis Rent-A-Car contracts, two enclosures for Memphis, two enclosures for Knoxville, concerning JAMES E. RAY, home address 4124 East Ridge Drive, Chattanooga, Tenn., P. O. Box 1081.

The following investigation was conducted by SA LEON ROSS GRABEN on 5/20/68, at Gulfport, Miss.:

Mr. D. F. LIONBERGER, Manager, Avis Rent-A-Car, Biloxi-Gulfport Airport, advised that his office is presently under an audit and during the course of examination of rental agreements executed during the year 1967, two agreements were located in the name of JAMES E. RAY. Mr. LIONBERGER said he desired to bring this to the attention of the FBI due to the similarity of names. He advised that he has photos of the wanted man known as JAMES EARL RAY and is familiar with the background in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he has no reason to believe the person represented on the rental agreements is identical to the RAY who killed Dr. KING.

Mr. LIONBERGER pointed out that on the rental agreement number 7161294, the time out is listed as

- 2 - Memphis (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Knoxville (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Jackson

JLP/pac

(5)

157-9586-537

Searched	_____
Serialized	_____ <i>W</i>
Indexed	_____ <i>W</i>
Filed	_____ <i>W</i>

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

JN 157-9586

3/31/67, at 5:15 p.m., and that the indicated time of return is 3/1/67. He advised this latter date, 3/1/67, should have been 4/1/67.

It is noted that these two rental agreements were executed in March, 1967, at a time when subject JAMES EARL RAY was allegedly in the Mississippi State Penitentiary.

In the event JAMES E. RAY of Chattanooga, Tenn., has not been located and eliminated, the Knoxville Division should locate and interview RAY.

LEAD

KNOXVILLE

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

If not already done, JAMES E. RAY of 4124 East Ridge Drive, Chattanooga, should be located and thoroughly interviewed.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

7161294

Broadwater Bldg
23-12L
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
GULFPORT, MISS.
601-864-7182

(1) STATION

(47)

(2) CAR NUMBER

340

(3) CAR LICENSE NO.

E-23030

(4) STATE

Miss

(2A) CAR MAKE

Cruiser

(5) OWNING CITY

Gulfport

RENTAL WILL BE PAID BY



041 113 637 7



James E. Ray
Time charge on unit
246 because of car
trouble

(7) IDENTIFICATION

CENTRAL
BILLING

AVIS

AMEX

DIN

CB

ATC

OTHER

(9) CAR WILL BE RETURNED ON

3-1-67

(8) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO

KWB

(10) UNEXPIRED
DRIVER'S LICENSE
PRESENTED

YES

0811218

Linn

(11) LOCAL CONTACT/
ADDITIONAL INFO.

Theresa Vinta
Trade Winds
100
700

(12) I HAVE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS RENTAL AGREEMENT AND AGREE THERETO.



(13)

James E. Ray
★

CORRECTED BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS

4124 E. Ridge Dr.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

PO Box 1081
(1081)

MILEAGE DETERMINED BY READING
FACTORY INSTALLED ODOMETER(19)
MILES
IN

2883

(16)
TIME
USED

39 miles only

(20)
MILES
OUT

2844

(17)
TIME
IN

4-1

(21)
MILES
DRIVEN

39

(18)
TIME
OUT

3-31 5:15 PM

(22)

HOURS

@ 250

(23)

DAYS

@ 1200

(24)

WEEKS

@

(25)

@



LICENSEE

(26) SUB TOTAL

5 07

(27) TRAVEL AGENT
COMMISSION

YES

(27a)

(28) TIME AND
MILEAGE CHARGE

5 07

(29) INTERCITY FEE, QUOTED

\$ NONE

(30) MISC.

(31) ACCEPTS

DECLINES

X

X

(32) PRE-TAX TOTAL

5 07

(33) TAX

4 1/2 %

23

(34) OTHER

(35) TOTAL CHARGE

5 30

(36) LESS: GAS, ETC.

(37) NET CHARGE

5 30

COLLISION
DAMAGE WAIVER

(CDW) D

RENTER ACCEPTS
OR DECLINES PUR-
CHASE OF THE
CDW AT A FEE OF
\$1.00 PER DAY OR
\$5.00 PER WEEK.

(15) DEPOSIT

CASH

CHK.

(43) METHOD
OF
PAYMENT

CASH

CHARGE

(38) AMOUNT DUE (U.S.\$)

5 30

(39) REFUND REC'D

X

(40) OUT BY (NO.)

(41) IN BY (NO.)

(42) CHECK-IN STATION (NO.)

GULFPORT
MISS.

RENTAL AGREEMENT NO.

THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL
CORRESPONDENCE AND REMITTANCES.

7161294

7161295

Broadwater Beach
25-12L
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
GULFPORT, MISS.
601-864-7182

(1) STATION

(47)

(2) CAR NUMBER

246

(3) CAR LICENSE NO.

(4) STATE

Miss

(2A) CAR MAKE

Dart

(5) OWNING CITY

Gulfport

RENTAL WILL BE PAID BY



041 113 637 7



James E. Ray

MILEAGE DETERMINED BY READING FACTORY INSTALLED ODOMETER				(16) TIME USED
(19) MILES IN			769	(17) TIME IN 4-2-67 1130
(20) MILES OUT			519	(18) TIME OUT 3-31 515 PM
(21) MILES DRIVEN			190	@ 11 2090
(22)		HOURS	@ 1.75	
(23)		DAYS	@ 11.00	22.00
(24)		WEEKS	@ 55.00	
(25)			@	



LICENSEE

(7) IDENTIFICATION

CENTRAL
BILLING

AVIS

AMEX

DIN

CB

ATC

OTHER

(9) CAR WILL BE RETURNED ON

3-1-67

(8) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO

Gulfport

(10) UNEXPIRED
DRIVER'S LICENSE
PRESENTED

YES

08/12/18

(11) LOCAL CONTACT/
ADDITIONAL INFO

Trade Winds 416 150 750

(12) I HAVE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS RENTAL AGREEMENT AND AGREE THERETO.

X

(13)

James E. Ray

CORRECTED BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS

4124 E Ridge Dr.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

PO Box 1081

COLLISION
DAMAGE WAIVER(CDW) ☒RENTER ACCEPTS
OR DECLINES PUR-
CHASE OF THE
CDW AT A FEE OF
\$5.00 PER DAY OR
\$5.00 PER WEEK.

(15) DEPOSIT

CASH

CHK.

(26)	SUB TOTAL	42.90
(27)	TRAVEL AGENT COMMISSION YES	(27a)
(28)	TIME AND MILEAGE CHARGE	42.90
(29)	INTERCITY FEE QUOTED \$	NONE
(30)	MISC.	
(31)	ACCEPTS X	DECLINES X 8/16
(32)	PRE-TAX TOTAL	42.90
(33)	TAX 4 1/2%	1.93
(34)	OTHER	
(35)	TOTAL CHARGE	44.83
(36)	LESS: GAS, ETC.	
(37)	NET CHARGE	44.83

(43) METHOD
OF
PAYMENT

CASH

CHARGE

(38)	AMOUNT DUE (U.S.\$)	44.83
(39)	REFUND REC'D	X
(40)	OUT BY (NO.)	(41) IN BY (NO.)
(42)	CHECK-IN STATION (NO.)	

GULFPORT
MISS.RENTAL AGREEMENT NO.
THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL
CORRESPONDENCE AND REMITTANCES.

7161295